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Vol 2 Issue 8

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Thursday, March 19, 2009

Struggling with Economic Development

Minden Hills Council Questions Proceeding with Master Plan

"The public can see projects that aren't finished and that should take priority over an economic development plan."
(Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch)

Last week the Minden Hills Council struggled once again with whether or not they should proceed with their Economic Development Master Plan. During Council's budget deliberations they agreed, after considerable discussion, that the plan should move forward; a decision that was part of the rationale for a tax increase.

Now that the budget has been established, Council is rethinking the wisdom of an expenditure that will likely reach or exceed \$150,000. This could very well leave a bad taste in the mouths of tax payers who might think Council's waffling is too little and too late.

The need for a master plan to support decisions about the community's future grown was clearly recognized by all councillors last fall. When Reeve Jim McMahon announced their decision to put out a tender for the plan's development, he said that trying to determine the fate of Pritchard House was likely the catalyst. He said, "Before we can make a decision on Pritchard House, we recognized that, as a high profile area, a long term plan is needed for the entire downtown core. As well as an economic development plan for Minden as a whole, emphasis needs to be placed on Highway 35 and that catchment area for future development."

So what has changed? It seems that what Council is really struggling with is not only their recent deficit, but the need to establish higher than anticipated tax rates. But that is water under the bridge.

The issue was broached again by Councillor Barbara Reid, who apparently has been tasked with evaluating the tender submissions for the master plan. According to Reid when trying to solicit comments from the rest of Council about the tenders, she received no response. She questioned where Council wished to go with the plan.

Councillor Lisa Schell stated unequivocally that she did not respond to Reid's e-mails as she didn't support the plan. Schell had also been against including the economic development master plan in the budget. Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch agreed with Schell.

Reid said, "If the majority of Council believe that we shouldn't proceed, that should be made clear. Part of the tax increase was to implement this plan." Reid reminded Council that the plan had been identified by both Council and staff as their second most important initiative to pursue, with the first priority being the Riv-

Minden Hills cont'd... pg. 6...

Installations Begin

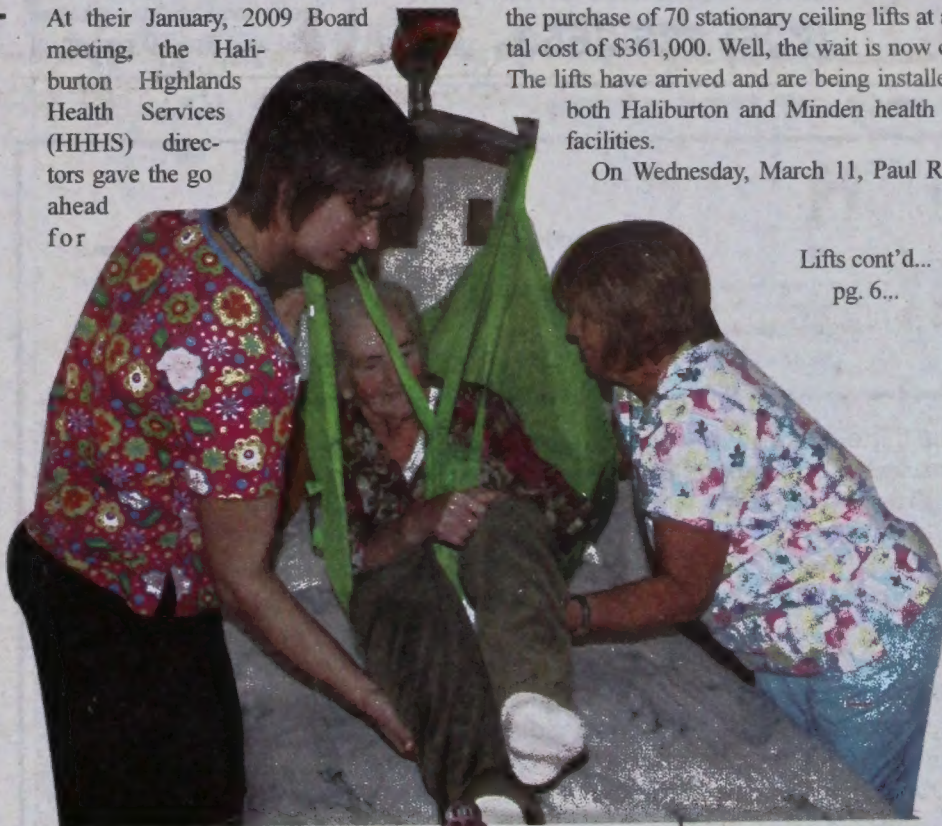
70 Ceiling Lifts Arrive at Local Health Care Facilities

At their January, 2009 Board meeting, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) directors gave the go ahead for

the purchase of 70 stationary ceiling lifts at a total cost of \$361,000. Well, the wait is now over. The lifts have arrived and are being installed in both Haliburton and Minden health care facilities.

On Wednesday, March 11, Paul Rose-

Lifts cont'd...
pg. 6...



Stanhope Citizens Speak Out About Tree Topping and Clear Cutting for the New Runway

"My dream of having my kids grow up on a quiet back road is gone." (Jennifer Mueller)

Plans for the new runway at the Stanhope Municipal Airport are gaining momentum as the Algonquin Highlands Council starts to set its priorities before moving forward. At their March 5th meeting, tree clearing and topping, stumping and the issuing of tenders headed the list. But the very mention of tree topping has people living in the flight path of the runway hopping and several of them are gearing up for a fight.

In a report submitted to Council last September, consultants advised that, as the majority of the airport site is densely tree covered, 'the removal of several tens of hectares of trees for runway construction and obstacle clearance will be necessary.' Most of the tree cutting will take place on Crown Land and will have to be negotiated with the Ministry of

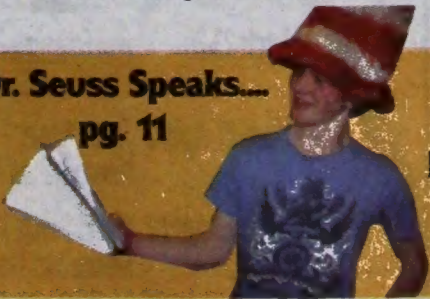
Stanhope cont'd... pg. 7...

"I hope they'll understand that the runway is going forward and we will have to do something about the trees."
(Lorne Mitchell)



Dr. Seuss Speaks...
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6 Women Artists ...
pg. 12



March Break Dress Up...
pg. 10



Inside This Issue

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Minden Hills Council Seeks Reductions in Reimbursement of Expenses

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

"Preparing for Council meetings is part of the job and I think that the Township should be able to facilitate that."

(Barb Reid)

On Thursday, March 12th the Minden Hills Council significantly reduced Municipal travel expenses for both Council and staff. When presented with a recommendation from their Treasury Department for a total of \$80.00 per day for their meal allowance for conferences and meetings, they found themselves agreeing with Councillor Lisa Schell who said, "\$80.00 a day is a lot for food."

As a point of comparison, Reeve Jim McMahon commented that the County of Haliburton presently authorizes an expense of \$75.00 a day without receipts. Councillor Rick Ratcliff said that he had 'googled' other Municipalities and found that while some allowed expenses that were higher, a lot of them were less. He also said, "It's too much." Ratcliff recommended dropping the overall cost to somewhere between 50 and 60 dollars, referring to the fact that a third of their salary is provided tax free to assist with their expenses.

A general discussion ensued with a number of examples given of the costs for meals at a variety of locations as well

as the fact that banquet fees are usually included in overall conference fees. McMahon suggested a per diem of \$55.00 without the requirement for receipts.

However, CAO Gerry Morrison said that their Treasury Department would insist on receipts and establishing an amount for each meal. He advised Council that they had recently refused to pay a receipt that had been submitted for a \$50.00 lunch. Exactly who had submitted the receipt was not mentioned. He said, "It (the per diem) must be broken down into three meals to ensure that the maximum allowable amounts aren't exceeded."

Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch suggested breaking the \$55.00 amount down into three meals and bringing the policy back for ratification.

While on the subject of Council expenses, Councillor Barbara Reid inquired about being invoiced for delivery of her Council agenda packages. Reid said that 80 percent of

the time she either picks up her own agenda package or has someone pick it up for her. She said that since being elected in 2007 she had been unable to pick her package up on 10 occasions and the package had to be couriered to her. Suddenly, four weeks ago, Reid received an invoice for each of these deliveries at just over \$6.00 each.

Reid said, "Preparing for Council meetings is part of the job and I think that the Township should be able to facilitate that. If there was a policy detailing that the expense wouldn't be allowed I could agree, but this wasn't made clear at all." Reid suggested that it was wrong to save the charges up and then present them to a Councillor who was simply trying to do her job.

McMahon commented that some years ago, the Lutterworth Township Reeve of the day, who lived in Toronto, couriered his package out twice a month at his own expense. He said, "That was the policy." McMahon agreed that there was likely no similar policy put in place since amalgamation and it was simply considered one of the perks. He also said that the County were known to deliver some of their packages to the east of the County and to Dorset and that from time to time the by-law officers had delivered packages as a convenience to individuals.

The matter of the invoice became a bit of an issue as Councillors argued whether Reid should be required to pay the courier fees. A number of Councillors felt that as a third of their remuneration was intended for expenses she should be required to pay. Ratcliff suggested that as the delivery slips (something that Reid said she thought were only confirmation of delivery) had been placed in her mail box, she should have expected to accept the cost.

Veering away from that part of the discussion, Ratcliff also suggested that Councillors should not be paid mileage either. In response to Reid's question how he could then justify meals, Ratcliffe said it was acceptable as they would be away from their normal work environment. The discussion went downhill from this point with Councillors resorting to a bit of back biting when discussing what should be paid.

Councillor Bill Obee, trying to turn the discussion around, said that Council should simply put a policy in place about the delivery of packages and move ahead, adding that the charges should not be retroactive. Several Council members still thought Reid should pay the invoice, but Schell finally suggested waiving them and starting fresh with a new policy. Through a show of hands all of Council, with the exception of Murdoch, agreed that the Municipality should absorb the \$65.90.

Ratcliffe returned to the issue of mileage, saying that portion of the reimbursement policy should be reviewed. (Mileage rates were proposed based on the cost of gas per litre and ranged from \$.40 per kilometre to \$.60 per kilometre.) McMahon asked their Clerk to complete a review of other municipalities and bring a revised policy back to the next Council meeting. ■

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First Page
SEO



HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS
HEALTH SERVICES

For The Health Of The Highlands

NOTICE

The thirteenth annual general meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Hall, Sir Sandford Fleming College, Haliburton.

2009/10 Membership in the HHHS Corporation is available to any individual who has been a resident* of, or who has been employed or carried on a business in, the County of Haliburton or, in the Townships formerly known as Laxton, Digby and Longford, or Bexley or Somerville of Victoria County; or Cavendish and Galway of Peterborough County for a period of at least 12 months immediately prior to the payment of an annual membership fee of ten dollars (\$10). (Membership from last year, 2008/09, will expire at the close of the Annual General Meeting on June 25, 2009.)

Membership in the Corporation entitles an individual to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation. To be eligible to vote at the June 25, 2009 Annual General Meeting, new memberships must be obtained by April 6, 2009. Members of the Corporation are also entitled to nominate Directors for election to the Board by submitting in writing a nomination, which must be received by the Secretary of the Board at least 30 days before the day of the Annual General Meeting.

The fee may be paid and a membership card obtained at HHHS, Haliburton or Minden Hospitals, during regular business hours, or by contacting:

Marlene Vieira
Haliburton Highlands Health Services
7199 Gelert Road, P.O. Box 115
Haliburton, Ontario. K0M 1S0
705-457-2527
email: mvieira@hhhs.on.ca

* this includes seasonal residents, ie., summer cottagers/landowners

MNR Issues Fishing Charges and Warnings

The Ministry of Natural Resources laid charges and issued warnings during an enforcement blitz in the Minden area during the March 7-8 weekend.

Conservation officers checked anglers on the ice and at access points. Officers also ensured that anglers were complying with the law while fishing for species such as lake trout, brook trout and walleye.

The officers checked 79 people and issued 18 charges and 54 warnings.

Charges and warnings were issued for: Over limit of lake trout; Catching and retaining slot size lake trout; Fishing without a licence; Failing to produce a licence; Fishing with too many lines; Setting night fishing lines; Occupying un-numbered ice fishing huts; Cutting fish so that the length can not be measured.

Officers also issued warnings related to not wearing helmets on all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles, having open liquor on the ice and providing false statements to conservation

officers.

For further information on fishing regulations, please consult the 2008-2009 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary, available from licence issuers or at ontario.ca/fishing.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact the ministry's Minden area office at 705-286-5220 during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). ■

Spring May Be Here Soon, But How About A Last Minute Get Away Down South

March 23-30 Royal Golden Bahia Principe Hotel Room, All-inclusive ★★★★★ La Romana DR with Transat Holidays
Sale Price is \$698 (& taxes \$315.00)

March 27-April 3 Tesora Master 1 bd oceanview hotel room, all-inclusive ★★★★★ in Manzanillo Mexico Transat Holidays
Sale Price is \$798 (& taxes \$266.50)

March 27-April 3 Grand Sirenis Mayan Beach Junior Suite, All Inclusive ★★★★★ Riviera Maya Mexico with Transat Holidays
Sale Price is \$998 (& taxes \$266.50)

March 27-April 3 Princess Regency Club Deluxe Suite all-inclusive ★★★★★ Punta Cana DR with Transat Holidays
Sale Price is \$988 (& taxes \$341.25)

April 13-20 Costa Cruise Lines 'Atlantica' and Transat Holidays, Eastern Caribbean, Veranda Cabin. Includes air, cruise & transfers
Sale Price is \$828 (& taxes \$560.00)

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From left to right: Karen Frybort, Sherry Parkes and Cathryn Judge.

March Break at McKek's Staff Dress in their Best Outfits During Theme Days

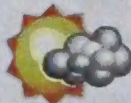
Employees at McKek's Place in Haliburton went the extra mile to get into the March Break spirit this week.

Annually, it has become a tradition for staff to dress up to match a theme on each day of the week during the break.

"It's a way of brightening up the week," said General Manager Karen Frybort of the theme days.

This past Monday was "local yocal day", Tuesday was dress up green day, Wednesday was sports day, today is teenage wasteland day and tomorrow is tacky tourist day. ■

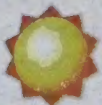
THURSDAY



Morning sun, then becoming mostly cloudy

▲ -2° ▼ -7°

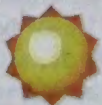
FRIDAY



Mostly sunny and chilly

▲ -4° ▼ -10°

SATURDAY



Mostly sunny and warmer

▲ 4° ▼ -7°

SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy and mild

▲ 9° ▼ -2°

MONDAY



Slight chance of a shower or two

▲ 11° ▼ 1°

TUESDAY



Morning showers, then some sunshine

▲ 4° ▼ -8°

WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy and colder

▲ -2° ▼ -12°

AROUND THE REGION: It will remain chilly on Thursday as skies will become mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs will be near zero. The sun will return for Friday and Saturday with highs in the single digits below zero on Friday and single digits above zero on Saturday. Even warmer weather will be likely on Sunday and Monday.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



Mar 14, 2009

04 11 13 16 41 45

Bonus Number 35

Encore 1705400



Mar 13, 2009

06 15 18 24 35 36 46

Bonus Number 17

Encore 3808779

TROPICAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk
Acapulco	31/23/pc	31/24/pc	31/23/hs	Montego Bay	27/21/hs	27/21/pc	28/22/su
Antigua	28/22/pc	29/23/pc	28/23/pc	Nassau	27/19/hs	25/17/pc	24/20/su
Barbados	30/24/pc	31/24/pc	29/26/su	Port au Prince	28/23/hs	28/22/hs	27/24/ra
Bermuda	21/13/su	23/17/hs	23/18/hs	Puerto Vallarta	31/19/pc	31/19/pc	31/15/su
Cancun	30/19/hs	27/11/pc	27/21/su	St. Thomas	27/22/pc	27/22/pc	27/22/pc
Curacao	31/24/sh	31/24/pc	29/23/su	St. Maarten	29/22/pc	28/22/pc	27/24/pc
Freeport	26/18/hs	24/16/pc	24/19/hs	San Jose, CR	29/18/hs	28/18/hs	28/18/su
Georgetown	31/24/pc	31/25/hs	29/23/hs	San Juan	27/22/su	28/21/sh	28/24/cl
Havana	28/19/hs	26/18/sh	25/19/pc	San Salvador	29/19/pc	29/18/pc	32/21/su
Key West	26/20/sh	25/18/sh	25/20/pc	Santo Domingo	28/23/hs	28/22/hs	28/22/sh
Kingston	28/22/sh	28/22/pc	30/21/sh	Trinidad	31/24/pc	31/25/pc	31/26/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Bancroft	-2/-7/cl	-4/-10/su	4/-7/su	9/-2/cl	11/1/cl	4/-8/sh	-3/-12/pc
Barrie	-1/-6/cl	-3/-9/su	6/-6/su	10/-2/cl	12/1/cl	5/-7/sh	-1/-11/pc
Dorset	-2/-7/cl	-4/-10/su	4/-7/su	9/-3/cl	11/1/cl	4/-8/sh	-3/-12/pc
Haliburton	-2/-7/cl	-4/-10/su	4/-7/su	9/-2/cl	11/1/cl	4/-8/sh	-2/-12/pc
Huntsville	-2/-7/cl	-4/-10/su	4/-7/su	9/-3/cl	11/1/cl	4/-8/sh	-3/-12/pc
Kingston	1/-6/cl	-1/-8/su	7/-6/su	11/-1/cl	12/1/cl	6/-6/sh	-1/-10/pc
Lindsay	-1/-6/cl	-3/-9/su	6/-6/su	10/-2/cl	12/1/cl	5/-7/sh	-1/-11/pc
Minden	-2/-7/cl	-4/-10/su	4/-7/su	9/-2/cl	11/1/cl	4/-8/sh	-2/-12/pc
Oshawa	1/-5/cl	-1/-8/su	7/-5/su	12/-1/cl	13/2/cl	7/-6/sh	0/-9/pc
Ottawa	0/-7/cl	-2/-8/pc	4/-7/su	8/-2/cl	9/-1/cl	4/-8/sh	-3/-12/pc
Toronto	1/-5/cl	-1/-7/su	8/-5/su	12/-1/cl	13/2/cl	7/-6/sh	0/-9/pc

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Calgary	12/-1/pc	12/-2/pc	8/-5/cl	2/-8/sf	3/-1/sn	2/-9/sh	4/-9/pc
Edmonton	2/-4/pc	-2/-9/sn	1/-10/sn	-2/-10/sn	1/-12/sf	-1/-11/cl	0/-9/pc
Fredericton	1/-7/cl	-2/-8/pc	1/-9/sf	4/-8/sf	4/-4/sf	-1/-9/mx	-4/-13/sf
Halifax	7/1/sh	1/-6/pc	-3/-6/sf	0/-5/sf	1/-3/sf	-2/-4/cl	-2/-7/sf
Montreal	0/-9/cl	1/-9/pc	3/-8/su	7/-3/cl	8/-1/cl	4/-6/sh	-3/-12/cl
Regina	8/-2/cl	11/1/pc	6/-2/sh	5/-3/mx	2/-7/cl	1/-9/cl	2/-10/cl
St. John's	4/-1/sh	2/-4/mx	3/1/mx	4/2/ra	2/2/mx	2/-1/sn	0/-3/sf
Saskatoon	4/-5/pc	3/-3/mx	1/0/sf	0/-2/sf	-7/-10/sf	0/-11/cl	1/-9/pc
Vancouver	9/4/ra	7/1/ra	8/3/mx	9/3/mx	9/3/mx	10/4/sh	9/2/pc
Whitehorse	-12/-22/cl	-13/-24/cl	-16/-28/cl	-9/-23/sf	-8/-16/sn	-12/-18/sf	-12/-19/sn
Winnipeg	3/-4/pc	9/1/cl	9/0/dz	9/-1/sh	3/-2/mx	0/-12/sn	-3/-15/sf

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 3/16	12°C	-6°C	0.0 mm
Sunday 3/15	10°C	-9°C	0.0 mm
Saturday 3/14	5°C	-13°C	0.0 mm
Friday 3/13	-3°C	-19°C	0.0 mm
Thursday 3/12	-6°C	-13°C	0.0 mm
Wednesday 3/11	5°C	-9°C	14.5 mm
Tuesday 3/10	2°C	-5°C	0.0 mm

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com

Forecasts, graphs and data
provided by Weather Central,
Inc., Madison, Wis. © 2009

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu.	7:19 a.m./7:26 p.m.	3:47 a.m./12:11 p.m.
Fri.	7:17 a.m./7:27 p.m.	4:25 a.m./1:13 p.m.
Sat.	7:15 a.m./7:28 p.m.	4:56 a.m./2:18 p.m.
Sun.	7:13 a.m./7:29 p.m.	5:22 a.m./3:25 p.m.
Mon.	7:11 a.m./7:31 p.m.	5:44 a.m./4:32 p.m.
Tues.	7:09 a.m./7:32 p.m.	6:04 a.m./5:40 p.m.
Wed.	7:07 a.m./7:33 p.m.	6:23 a.m./6:49 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
March 26	April 2	April 9	April 17

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"Looks to me like about a seven iron."

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"To me this appears as a 'Gag Order' ... It makes one wonder what does Council have to hide?"

As a citizen and ratepayer of Highlands East I requested to attend their March 10th, Council meeting with reference to the Townships hiring procedures, policies thereof and clarification of same. I received a letter from the Clerk informing me the March 10th, council agenda was presently full and would not be able to place me on said agenda. I followed up with a letter requesting to attend the March 24th, council meeting. On March 14th, I received a letter from the Clerk to advise me council discussed my concerns at the March 10th, council meeting. This is the meeting I initially requested to attend and was advised the agenda was full. The letter went on to say "Therefore Council will not allow you to appear before them as a delegation to speak on these matters."

How can Council discuss a matter when I was not allowed to address such and then notify me I am not allowed to appear before them. To me this appears as a "Gag Order". The Township has on file By-Law 58-2004 Being a By-law to adopt a Hiring Policy for the Municipality of Highlands East under Section 270(1) of the Municipal Act. The Policy Statement reads as follows:

"A member of council or any employee of the municipality shall not use, or seek to use, their position or employment with the municipality to gain direct or indirect benefit for themselves or their parents, their spouses, same-sex spouses, or children. A member of council or any employee of the municipality shall not hire or contract with members of his or her immediate family, that is, his or her own spouse, same-sex partner, parents, children and siblings. A member of council or any employee of the municipality shall not occupy a position where one immediate family member reports directly to another."

In other words, no immediate family member can work under the direction and supervision of the C.A.O. The same would apply to anyone being paid by the municipality who is directly related to the Reeve. If Council does not abide by any of their By-laws they are contravening their By-laws and legislation and this brings into question if Council is acting in good faith. Obviously Highlands East Council did not wish to discuss such a matter with me or they would have allowed me to attend. Instead they blatantly denied me access to their meeting. It makes one wonder what does Council have to hide. For any council to act in such a manner is an abuse of authority and power and demonstrates a lack of leadership.

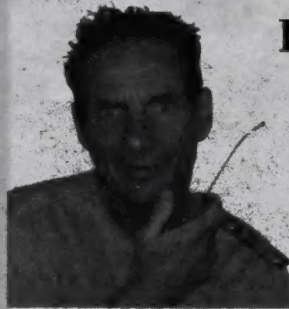
Council is elected by the people for the people and in turn we should receive respect and dignity from our municipal representatives. During election campaigning Mr. Burton ran on an open fair and receptive council. How soon one forgets such statements. Deputy Reeve Mackie was not at the March 10th council meeting and was not aware of the letter sent to me. Councillor Stoughton confirmed the decision made by council. I have not contacted the remainder of Council as I am sure they will attest to same. Citizens of Highlands East, if council does not want to deal with any issue you want to bring to their attention you too may receive such a letter as I did. I wonder if the Municipality's Hiring By-law will now change?

Thank heavens for a municipal election in 2010.

Beverly MacDuff
Gooderham ■

Editorial VIEWPOINT

by Terrance Gavan



Facebook a Looming Assault on Sense and Sensibility Some Scientists Say there's a cure.

I'm a sucker for new technology. But I have my limits. I've been on Facebook. But rapidly left. Facebook scares the beejeez out of me.

I have heard the stories.

Stories of people with 22,567 Facebook friends.

Pardon me just a moment here. But if you have 22,567 friends on Facebook, you are in dire need of some therapy.

I have two good friends. I've had them since university. I find it very hard today as I career into my senior years, to maintain and cultivate those friendships. We are all three of us really busy with our separate preoccupations and life's languid streams.

I send them a column once in a while and in the next few weeks we will be Twittering and emailing like fiends because we are involved in our yearly NCAA March Madness basketball pool. We've been doing it since college.

It's just an excuse to get together vicariously, and renew that camaraderie that we negotiated back at the University of Manitoba.

We are busy. We, none of us, two writers and a Manitoba Union activist can afford the investment in another 22,565 extra friends, who poke, nudge, and stream pithy little net aphorisms like LOL and LMAO frequently and with apparent disregard for decorum and the rigors of the day.

We are all leery of Facebook. We are pragmatists. We are old. Wiser. We all grew up Catholic and we know the face of the beast.

We have heard the sordid tales of Facebook addiction. We follow the scary and vaguely loopy stories of Facebook: the bullying and coercive contracts made in the dim wee hours of the morning between 13-year-old girls and their 15-year-old boyfriends.

Contracts made in the subdued, salsa light of a Lava lamp set beside an Apple MacBook Air at 2 am on a Friday evening.

A teenaged girl, Lolita5912, aka Samantha McGilicuddy, has just lost a spot on the cheerleading squad and nudges her Facebook boyfriend GothBoy13997, aka Jeremiah O'Hoolihan, telling him that something needs to be done.

"I'm very, very, very angry GothBoy13997. And you won't like me when I'm angry! I think Amanda Ryan [aka Peachy4944] is such a weasel OMG I hate her! Sure, she can do the 1080 spin with the blunt force splits landing, and her teeth are perfect since those bloody braces came out last spring, but that's my spot on the squad she took GothBoy13997. She needs a poke, a nudge. She needs to meet with an accident. Got it Goth Boy? She'll be in the quad alone tomorrow after school. I got HannahMontana19876 to poke her with news of a special cheerleading meeting. LOL! No meeting, except with Destiny? LMAO! The tire iron is in my locker. You know the combo. Time for a good old fashioned Tonya Harding trailer-park beat down GothBoy13997. One good whack to the kneecap and I'm back on the pep squad. You're blocked from my Facebook until I hear the wail of those sirens and see the whites of a paramedic's eyes on the quad. Do it for me GothBoy13997. Do it for love!"

You will tell me I'm paranoid. That these incidents form the exception and not the norm.

But, I read the stories and I see the detritus of disappointment in those faces of the lonely, disenfranchised laptop languishers. I see the pasty white skin, the cross-eyed stares, facial tics and carpal tunnel syndrome, all first signs of Facebook palsy, a degenerative malady.

A few recent studies also indicate that Facebook is addictive.

A deep sucking wound on the heaving chest of society. It is disrupting workplace habits, reducing productivity, and slowly eroding our ability to conduct face-to-face conversations.

A University of Victoria Psychologist Rob Bedi says that Facebook is enslaving. "Notifications, messages, pokes, and invites reward you with an unpredictable high, much like gambling," says Bedi. That anticipation can get dangerously addictive.

"Heroin addicts and alcoholics have it pretty easy," adds Bedi. "They just put away the

Editorial cont'd... pg. 5...

The County Voice Inc.

Editorial & Production Manager: Joanne Irvine
Advertising Manager: Brett Irvine
Managing Editor: Stephen Patrick
Sports Editor: Terrance Gavan
Prepress & Production: Shawn Welsh
Graphic Designer: Buffy Wilson
Photographer: Lyn Winans
Reporters: Mark Arike, Liz Danielsen

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Box 930 Huriburton Ontario K0M 1S0
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admin@countyvoice.ca sports@countyvoice.ca

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More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

"Why are you whining about the cost to run the medical centre?"

Hey Highlands East Council, why are you whining about the cost to run the medical centre? You are willing to spend \$12,000.00 to \$25,000.00 or more on a road that does nothing for the community? In these times of tight money for all projects why don't you use your heads and put the money where it is most needed?

Roberta Walsh
Wilberforce ■

Dear Editor

"If quality of local representation is a concern, numbers clearly indicate Ontario is not doing well."

Legislators in Ontario are a declining breed; declining that is in relative numbers. This is true whether the relative number of legislators is compared with the Ontario of the past or other provinces now.

As for the past, 90 Ontario legislators in 1937 each represented about 25,000 electors while in this year, 107 each represent about 80,000. Comparing other provinces, in Quebec 125 legislators now represent each about 46,000 electors. All other provinces have yet more favourable ratios of legislators to electors.

If quality of local representation is a concern, numbers clearly indicate Ontario is not doing well.

In addition, our peculiar electoral system does not allow significant differences in these bloated constituencies to be fairly represented. The solution is to create more legislators and to do so using a party list for members-at-large.

That is the logic of proportional representation. And for Ontario, in the system variously known as 'two X' the local member/party list or Mixed Member Proportional recommended by the Citizens' Assembly in 2007 remains the best solution.

Jim Milne
West Guilford ■

Editorial Cont'd....

... from pg. 4

needle or flush the Jack Daniels down the toilet. Facebookaholics have the peer pressure and Apple ads. The pushers from the Best Buy Geek Squad are preying on us all, tempting us to the dark side of WiFi."

Bedi and a group of psychiatrists on the front lines of this War on Nudge say that there may be a solution. "For some people, talking with someone might be the answer," says Harvard Psychiatrist Manny Dangerfield.

Hah. LMAO! Talking! What the hell is that? Why the hell do you think God gave us opposable thumbs? Ask the brain trust at Research In Motion. We have opposable thumbs so we can communicate via Blackberry. Talking is dead.

But we digress.

This all comes too late for poor Lolita5912, aka Samantha McGilicutt.

At a recent basketball state championship young Samantha was launched 121 feet into the air by cheerleader Rob Luckenwold, aka KarmicBounce666.

As young Samantha completed her 12th twist on the way back to earth, Rob suddenly left his spot underneath the rapidly descending Lolita5912, and sprinted over to high five a pretty young lady in a wheelchair wearing a full leg cast.

You guessed it. The pretty girl was Amanada Ryan, aka Peachy4944. They both turned to watch the empty spot on the hardwood.

Seeing the danger, GothBoy13997 left the stands and positioned himself under the somersaulting McGilicutt. But whereas Rob stands 6'4, weighs 225 pounds and bench presses 459 pounds, GothBoy13997 is just 5'6 and weighs in at about 148. He has carpal tunnel syndrome, myopia, and a bad back. He did his best to catch Samantha, but sadly it did not end well.

Samantha and GothBoy13997 are both recovering in the County General. Lolita5912 is not accepting GothBoy13997's pokes or emails and her mother is negotiating a deal with Fox for a movie of the week.

We need to do something about this Facebook thing.

Alas, good professor Bedi (aka BediTheJedi1313) offers solace in irony.

"You could join one of the 155 Facebook Addicts Anonymous groups on Facebook itself," offers BediTheJedi - obviously not taught by Yoda or Obe Wan. ■

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are always
welcome**

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letters@countyvoice.ca

Mail:

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70 Ceiling Lifts Arrive at Local Health Care Facilities

... from pg. 1

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

bush, HHHS President & CEO, met with members of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) and health care professionals at the Minden hospital to take a look at the installation work being done and see a lift in action with Highland Crest resident Jean Noble.

In a press release issued by the HHHS, Rosebush emphasized the importance of having the ceiling lifts at each of the health care facilities.

"The lifts will dramatically improve the health and safety of our hospital patients and the residents in Highland Wood and Hyland Crest," he stated. "Our dedicated staff will be able to directly affect the quality of life for patients and residents by providing secure and reliable care in a safe environment."

With the easy-to-use lifts, nurses are able to move a person with comparatively little effort. The lift operates with an electric hoist/winch to move the individual from a bed to a chair/wheelchair and back again to the bed. While being moved, the person sits in a sling that is attached by a cable to the lift mechanism.

With the lifts, nurses don't have to support a person's entire body weight on their own.

"The purchase of the lifts will help nurses transfer patients and residents safely and reduce a major cause of work-related injury and strain," added Rosebush.

To help with the purchases of the lifts, the HHHSF steadily raised funds through the \$2.5 million "Reach for the Future" campaign. Started back in June of 2007, the campaign was designed to help fund several key purchases for both hospital fa-

cilities. Most recently, the campaign assisted with the purchases of Picture Archiving Communication Systems (PACS) worth over \$731,000 for both hospitals.

In the recent media release, Don Popple, HHHSF Campaign Co-chair, applauded all those who have supported the lift purchases.

"The generosity of the community is outstanding and indicates the necessity of the lifts. Thank you!" he said ■



From left to right: Kathy Burt, Director of Care for Hyland Crest/ Hyland Wood, David Zilstra, HHHSF board member, Dale Walker, HHHSF Executive Director and Paul Rosebush, President and CEO of the HHHS.

Minden Hills Council Questions Proceeding with Master Plan

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

... from pg. 1

erwalk.

McMahon said he was not changing his mind, but suggested that the BIA, which is trying to establish a forum, should be a key player. He said, "I can't see proceeding without them." McMahon also said that he could not get his head around the difference in the proposals which ranged from \$50,000 to \$200,000.

Reid said that the plan was not something that could be self directed. She said, "We must have something to manage. Why pay for a consultant to prepare a terms of reference when you are now questioning whether we should go ahead. I think we need some fresh thinking and that comes at a price."

Reid agreed that there was quite a range in tender prices, but added that the scope and approach of the tenders was very different. Therein her need for Council input.

She urged her colleagues to reconsider, but reminded them that they would be taking steps that could take as long as two to five years to show meaningful benefits. She said, "It is Council's responsibility to look down the road and put the tools in place to create opportunities for our young people. This will establish ideas for businesses that can be developed in the future."

Reid also reminded Council that they had been struggling with certain aspects of the plan for several years (Pritchard House) and asked them whether they would be doing the right thing in the long run by walking away from the project.

Schell said, "I do not think this is the right thing to do at this time. The ratepayers feel that \$150,000 is not right and if the public don't want it we should listen." Schell also said that when the terms of reference were established for the master plan, Council had agreed they would not commit to the project until they saw the price.

Reid spoke of the potential benefits that could result from the plan. She said, "Having a document

like that gives us a tool to go to national retailers. It is a tool to quantitatively sell our community and will give us a leg up from other communities." Reid said she too was sensitive to the amount of the investment, but that it would be worth it if it brought jobs and diversity in the community.

Murdoch said, "It is important to consider that the time is not right. We are in a deficit position and we already have projects on the go with no money for them. We're trying to furnish a library with no money. The public can see projects that are not finished and that should take priority over an economic development plan." Murdoch agreed that \$100,000 might be a reasonable cost for the study, but again said it was not the right time for the project.

Councillor Bill Obee agreed that having the merchants on board would be positive, but he also said that would not be the driver of the plan. He stressed the importance of long term planning to ensure that the community is growing in the right way. Obee also said it was important to implement the plan once completed, rather than spending the money for something that would sit on a shelf. Obee's position was that it would be a good expenditure of money to help meet the community's long term goals.

Councillor Rick Ratcliff supported economic development, but he too was unsure of the timing. He addressed the need for a transportation study and said that part of the process would include a SWOT exercise with major stakeholders, that the consultants were looking for those same stakeholders to drive the process and that the BIA was required for that.

Ratcliff said that much of the information they were seeking was already available on the County website and part of the study could be done with participation from OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs). Ratcliffe also suggested that the Municipality could work with U-Links on the traffic study and involve Bob Smith, the County's Director of Economic Development.

In response to Ratcliff's comment that this might not be the best time to complete the study, Reid argued that it is precisely when there is a need that the project should be done. She said, "I agree this is a tough call, but it is a long term process. We must have long term vision and commitment and there is no point in discussing it further if there is no commitment on our part."

Council finally agreed that the decision did not have to be made that day. They decided to wait for Councillor Peter Oyler to return from his holidays, in order to enable the discussion to take place with the full Council. That meeting will take place on April 9th. ■

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Stanhope Citizens Speak Out

Tree Topping and Clear Cutting for the New Runway

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

... from pg. 1

Natural Resources. Private properties at the southeast end of the runway, south of Green Lake road and along the Airport Road were also identified for tree clearing or topping.

Sugar maple, white pine, birch, white spruce, hemlock, beech and basswood dominate the landscape where the airport is located. There is also a wide variety of poplar, aspen and willow as well as a variety of horsetail, sedge, fern and grasses. The consultant's report indicates that the forest stands and vegetation are common to the area and do not meet the criteria of significant woodlands. Based on their findings, the construction of the new runway will not impact on any significant natural heritage.

While the consultant's report indicates that Township officials have initiated discussions with private land owners to discuss the removal of trees, to date only one has been approached. Reeve Eleanor Harrison believes there may only be two private land owners affected, but the executive members from the Maple, Beech, Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners Association (MBC) suggest that there could be as many as five affected families.

CAO Lorne Mitchell told the Voice that tree topping is still down the road a bit. He said before any action is taken they must have environmental studies completed last year evaluated and receive a determination from the federal government on whether or not further environment assessment is required.

Mitchell said, "Prior to any construction we need to have regard for that process. We still have to get engineers on line before we start issuing tenders for tree cutting, clearing and grubbing. We will also have to contact private property owners and negotiate an aerial easement for the topping of their trees."

Mitchell confirmed that he and Reeve Harrison had met with George Claridge. "We were looking at the design build location and wanted to speak with them ahead of time." Mitchell said there was some reluctance on the part of the Claridges, but they have discussed tree topping/removal and the associated implications. He said, "I hope they'll understand that the runway is going forward and we will have to do something about the trees."

When asked how the Municipality would proceed if property owners are opposed to tree cutting or topping, Mitchell said, "It would be similar to acquiring land that people don't want to sell. We need to procure an aerial easement to ensure our right to go in and maintain the height of the trees so they don't go through the approach envelope. If necessary there are legal steps within our means that will allow us to establish the easements."

Claridge owns a 27 acre eco-system under a managed forest plan along the river on Green Lake Road. He confirmed that as much as 40 feet would have to be removed from the tallest of his trees and that a recommendation had been made to fell some of them. Claridge said, "We didn't care for that arrangement too much. I'm not in favour of the new runway anyway and think that the proposal is a long way down on my priority list for the area. The Council should be considering the real needs of the municipality. So many people lack the means to acquire even the basic necessities right now."

Claridge agreed that cutting a few trees wouldn't ruin his forest and the trees to be felled aren't close to his home, but that didn't stop him from telling the Municipality that he wasn't interested.

Forester Paul Heaven of Glenside Ecological Services Limited examined the trees to be cut and provided an opinion that their removal would not significantly impact the immediate habitat provided that a road network wasn't developed to access the trees. He said, "It is my opinion that the canopy would fill in relatively quickly."

There was one small bright note to Heaven's report. He stated that by felling the trees and leaving them on the ground it would actually enhance the available wildlife habitat by providing large diameter downed woody debris, additional insulation from heat and cold and add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. He also suggested that alternatively the trees could be topped (which would ultimately kill them) and the standing snag would provide wildlife with feeding and nesting cavity opportunities for years to come.

The second private property that will be affected is owned by Andrew Kuzyk. It's interesting to note that Kuzyk's property is actually in West Guilford, part of Dysart et al. Despite Kuzyk's location, Mitchell said that Algonquin Highlands will be able to deal with him in the same way as property owners in the Stanhope area. He said, "This is private property adjacent to the airport property and there is no need to involve Dysart." (According to Mitchell the end of the existing runway is located in Dysart.)

As no one from the Municipality had contacted him of their own accord, Kuzyk took matters into his own hands.

He contacted the Airport Manager, who apparently down played any impact on his property. He was then put in touch with an engineer doing work for the municipality who shared information about the trees to be topped.

Kuzyk's understanding of the process is a bit different from Mitchell's. He contacted a lawyer, who advised that Algonquin Highlands can't expropriate private lands in another township. What they can do is ask for Dysart's cooperation.

In discussion with the municipal engineer Kuzyk learned that the land directly adjacent to him will be clear cut. He said, "I am dead set against clear cut activity. I use my property as a recreational property and want to be in the midst of nature, not in the middle of a barren wasteland."

Kuzyk, who is a pilot, said that he was ecstatic about his property being so close to the airport. However, he said, "I don't believe that a small community needs an airport that can accommodate jets now or in the future. The current runway is long enough for any recreational pilot or even small commercial plans. I have owned my property for quite a while now and have never witnessed the kind of traffic that would support the proposed 4000 foot runway."

When asked, Kuzyk said his biggest beef is that the major-

ity of Algonquin Highlands' tax base is cottagers who are adamantly opposed to the expansion, but the Council continues to proceed with their plans.

He did have some thoughts on what could work. He said, "Ideally I would like to see an airport community planned with the potential provision for a cross wind runway that is 2500 feet long and exactly 90 degrees to the existing runway. That would increase the tax base and usefulness of the airport and have little impact on the existing community."

While not yet confirmed by the Municipality, according to MBC's calculations, Karl and Jennifer Mueller will also be subject to tree topping or cutting. Karl grew up on Maple Lake and the couple purchased a home on the Airport Road about seven years ago.

Jennifer Mueller said that they were definitely not in favour of any tree cutting on their property. She said, "When they come to the door, the answer will be no."

According to Mueller, her husband used to walk on the Middleton property, expropriated by the Municipality. She said, "People still don't believe that the township took 200 acres from the Middletons. It doesn't seem fathomable. If that is what we're facing, we'll have to deal with it, but it won't be pretty."

Mueller said, "Building another runway that may or may not be used doesn't make sense when we're driving on roads that are full of potholes. To spend over three million dollars on a runway and not worry about the roads surrounding the runway or take care of other more immediate needs is crazy."

While prepared for a fight, if it came to a legal battle Mueller said, "I will not lose my shirt over Eleanor Harrison and her proposed airport. We would simply relocate and for the township to drive people out of the area isn't good." She was quick to add that the couple wouldn't be rebuilding or buying other property in Algonquin Highlands so the Council could continue to use her tax dollars for the airport expansion.

Mueller said that she couldn't bear the thought of the logging and dump trucks destroying their lifestyle. She said, "My dream of having my kids grow up on a quiet back road is gone."

As to the property owners having to worry about tree cutting in the immediate future, according to Harrison no decisions will be made until April at the earliest. She confirmed that any tree cutting would be done in concert with construction and there are a lot of things that have to be dealt with before getting to that stage.

Harrison said, "This is a big project for a Municipality of our size, and we're taking things slowly at this point. We're finding out what is needed on the ground before moving forward. When it comes to discussing the trees with those people that are affected I'd like to sit down and try to reach a satisfactory solution for everyone. We can offer re-landscaping or replacing trees that have to be cut with similar trees. We're willing to do whatever we can to help."

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Getting Green-Friendly Now

Sustainability and Savings Highlighted at Local Forum

ecoENERGY evaluations may soon become commonplace in Haliburton County.

With the progress of global warming, now is probably the best time ever to have your home or workplace inspected to see just how energy efficient the building is, or isn't.

That's the message that Pam Sayne, a local home inspector and certified ecoENERGY evaluator, is trying to get across along with the help of a few others in the community. She's also hoping to create jobs in the area by training others to conduct ecoENERGY evaluations and engage experienced contractors with local youth on various projects.

During a recent community forum held at the Minden United Church, Sayne brought together local contractors and ecoENERGY evaluators with members of the public. The first unique event of its kind educated those in attendance about the ways of retrofitting a building to save energy and money. Grants available through the ecoENERGY Retrofit program provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources were also highlighted.

"I'm willing to guarantee that you're going to learn something here," said Carolyn Colburn, outgoing Chair of the Minden United Church, at the start of the forum. The church recently received its own ecoENERGY evaluation by Sayne to determine how energy-friendly the building is. For this service, members of the church provided Sayne with the building space as the venue for the forum.

If you've gotten to this point and are wondering what ecoENERGY means, here is a brief explanation. It was an initiative that was started in 1998 and is recognized as the "measure and comparative rating tool".

Its popularity rose significantly when Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) announced the EnerGuide for Houses (EGH) Retrofit Incentive, a program to offer homeowners grants to offset the costs of upgrades. The incentive program was approved as part of the 2003 federal budget announcement and continues to be funded under the Conservative government as ecoENERGY.

The purpose of an evaluation is to determine how inefficient a building is and to make specific recommendations on how to increase the R-value (a measure of thermal resistance) of its com-

ponents, how to stop unwanted airflow and how to heat the building more efficiently. Today, the provincial government matches grants given out by the federal government in Ontario and British Columbia. Homeowners can receive up to \$5,000 and owners of small to medium-sized commercial buildings can collect as much as \$50,000. Grants are also available for industrial facility projects.

Prior to introducing special guest speakers up to the podium for their presentations at the recent forum, Sayne asked those in the audience to introduce themselves. Many were local and many had their own reasons for attending, but the common thread they shared was their desire to learn how to save energy and reduce the impact of their carbon emissions on the planet.

By listening to Sayne's comments, it was evident to tell that she's a strong advocate on taking action for the sake of the planet's well-being and the people who live on it.

"We're experiencing more severe weather, more economic hardship, species extinction and rising sea levels," explained Sayne. "From what we can see, there's a lot going on within our planet...with the reduced use of fossil fuels, one household can save several tons per year in emissions." With Know Your Home Inspections Inc., Sayne said that she's managed to help people in Haliburton County reduce their carbon emissions by a total of 517 tons per year.

Since being in the home inspection industry for over 10 years, Sayne has witnessed firsthand how people have changed the way they use their homes.

"There are more home offices, people have more pets, there's more traffic coming in and going of their home..." she pointed out. These are just some of the changes that have an impact on energy use.

Don Babey, an ecoENERGY evaluator who works for Sayne, was the first featured guest speaker of the afternoon. Babey talked about the learning experience he went through with a retrofitting project he took on with his own home in the Kinmount area.

"I wanted to make my home more efficient," said Babey. "It was something that I was excited to do."

Babey had installed a pellet stove in his home (when it was a cottage) to keep the building warm while the building was uninhabited. But the stove caused a major problem. The heat it produced travelled up to the attic area, had no way of escaping, and thus

ecoENERGY evaluations may soon become commonplace in Haliburton County

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

resulting in the meltdown of snow on the steel roof.

"The snow didn't have anywhere to go, except off the back of the roof which is about three-feet off the ground," he explained. "There was about 20-inches of ice build-up which put a lot of weight on the roof."

This added weight on the home slid wood logs out of his roof, and if left untreated, could have caused his home to completely collapse. Babey said that this was a perfect example of how a home should be looked at as "a system." If you change one thing without considering the impact it could have on the entire structure, problems can arise in other parts of the building.

Don Koppin, a general contractor out of Bancroft, was next to take centre stage with his presentation on heat loss and ventilation. Koppin talked about heat loss he had in his own home. He saw the severity of the situation after Sayne gave him an ecoENERGY evaluation.

"Pam did the blower door test and used her thermal imaging camera," said Koppin. "The results of her evaluation showed that there was a lot of heat loss around the window frames in the sun porch area." The inspection revealed that the heat loss was equivalent to having a three-square-foot hole in the wall.

The other problems that Koppin encountered was ice build-up that was caused by heat from his newly installed fireplace.

"Around the attic hatch there was just drywall and no insulation," explained Koppin, "the stairs leading up to the attic didn't have any insulation in them, and this was causing the ice damming."

Koppin's basement was also a problematic area because of the cold air that was getting in. He said he used foam in combination with wood strapping to fix the situation.

Koppin said that he would be getting back about \$3,000 back from the ecoENERGY grant program for the retrofit work.

"That's about equivalent to what I was spending in a year for oil," he said, while adding that he was able to turn down the thermostat by about two-degrees to keep his home comfortable after completing the work.

Once the speakers finished, audience members had a chance to speak directly with these experts one-on-one.

The Voice spoke to some of those who attended the forum to see why they came and what they got out of it.

"It was very interesting," said Shirley Howe, a Minden resident. "My husband is a builder and so is my son, so I came out to see if there was anything that I could learn."

Sharon Harrison, a resident of Ingoldsby who lives in a 30-year old home, said she wanted to find out about how ecoENERGY evaluations are carried out.

"I plan on having an energy assessment done at my home, so this information has been very useful," said Harrison. "It's a much more complex process than I realized."

Sharon Lawrence, another Minden resident, knows all too well about how a home is a system. She experienced water leakage through her roof caused by ice build-up.

"Water poured in at the top of the windows because of it," she said. "It was a nightmare."

To learn more about the ecoENERGY grant program visit www.ecoaction.gc.ca.



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Celebrating the 'Luck of the Irish'



A sea of green could be seen throughout the Legion in Haliburton this past Tuesday when a large crowd came out for a St. Paddy's Day steak pie and salad luncheon.

Entertainment was also provided by Kathleen Owens and Earl Cooper.

The annual luncheon is hosted by the Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary and is one of the many fundraisers the group holds to assist with purchases of equipment for the Haliburton hospital. ■

Haliburton Green

The "Greenest Community in North America?"

Stephen Patrick

Editor

"As a community we have so much passion for all these projects – what we need now is to make them happen," said David Bishop, Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Manager at an information session held last Friday at Sir Sandford Fleming College's local campus. About 100 invitees heard five invigorating presentations on what was described as the Green Haliburton Initiative. The meeting was sponsored by the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC), which clearly believes that this Green Vision could have some serious economic implications for the future of the County.

The afternoon started off with a presentation by Fenelon Falls lawyer and environmental activist Mike Perry, representing the Green Energy Act Alliance. The Green Energy Act has been introduced in the Ontario Legislature, and when proclaimed will become a major part of the Ontario Liberal's Green initiative. As Perry pointed out, the Act will reduce significantly the cost to install wind turbines and other forms of alternative energy for both homes and businesses by obligating Ontario Hydro to pay set rates for any contributions to the grid. Perry quoted government sources to the effect that each 5000 megawatts of alternative energy produces 13,000 jobs, and urged the audience to support an online petition from the Green Energy Alliance in support of the Liberal's bill. The website is www.greenenergyact.ca.

In other presentations, Haliburton Forest Owner Peter Schleifenbaum wood waste gasifier that will be in production in the near future at the Forest. At the moment the waste wood chips that the Forest sawmills produce are shipped to pulp and paper mills in Quebec. Last year there were four of these mills in operation, but now there's only one. Using gasification technology first used in India, and now exported to Western Europe, Schleifenbaum hopes to convert the waste wood, including sawdust, into hydro-electric energy – perhaps enough eventually to supply a serious percentage of the entire county's needs. In addition, the process produces large amounts of charcoal, which will be re-introduced into the forest to supplement and enrich the existing soils. As well, Schleifenbaum revealed plans to explore the feasibility of

building, along with a European developer, a serious number of wind and solar power plants at the Forest. After a serious number of wind tests that have been conducted at the Forest over the last two years, it's hoped that the first windmill will be in place in 2010.

The next presenter was Nathan Basiliko, a professor of geography at the University of Toronto, and the head of the Centre for Global Change Science at U of T. Basiliko described in some detail how charcoal was used in ancient Amazonian settlements as a method of enriching agricultural soil – which created what's known as Terra Preta, literally 'dark earth' in Portuguese. This process not only enhances existing soils – it regenerates itself naturally, and is used these days as a fertilizer, much as peat bogs are harvested.

John Patterson, an entrepreneur, businessman, local resident and long time leader in international community development, presented his dream of Haliburton as a major centre of environmental research and tourism: and finally David Bishop gave the audience his vision of the enormous tourism and economic benefits that would flow from a community-wide Green commitment. Bishop cited the great success of the Forest's Canopy Walk and Wolf Centre as examples of innovative projects that were in the forefront of eco-tourism. He emphasized that it was essential for Haliburton be the first to establish itself as a Green County, and gave examples of the success of other environmental projects have had in attracting tourists, such as a North Cape Wind Farm in Prince Edward Island that attracts some 60,000 tourists each year. Bishop also linked together the appeal that our strong arts community, our beautiful natural setting of pristine lakes and forests, a county-wide commitment to healthy lifestyles, and an official Green policy would have to tourists world wide.

In conclusion, HCDC Manager Andy Campbell, in an effort to keep the afternoon's momentum and enthusiasm going, agreed to organize a committee to explore the next steps in what could be a very important economic and social initiative. Anyone who might be interested should contact the HCDC at 705 457-3555. ■

Music for All Ages at Heritage House Café

Ambitious Allison Lickley Puts On Stirring Performance

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

Those who were at the Heritage House Café in Haliburton on the night of Friday, March 6, were treated to the soothing sounds of Canadian singer/songwriter Allison Lickley.

The Edmonton-born artist, best known for her "honest, intimate performances", was brought to the café due to the efforts of Greg Luck, a local resident and musical artist.

"I've been promoting shows for a while, usually at places like The Rockliffe and The Northwood," said Luck, who plays drums in the metal group Wolves of Anson. The musician recently decided that in addition to promoting music at local bars, he also wanted to encourage all-ages events as well.

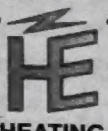
"I met Allison Lickley while camping, and ended up exchanging emails with her," explained Luck. He then approached Nicola Jowett, owner of the Heritage House Café, about hosting the concert.

"She seemed pretty stoked about it," said Luck.

The café re-opened up its doors for business in January, after a short one month hiatus. Jowett plans on hosting other shows in the future at her venue, a few of which Luck hopes to work on organizing.

"We've started brainstorming ideas," he said. "Hopefully I'll be able to get a show or two in there every summer." ■





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March Break at "Ma's Little House on Head Lake"

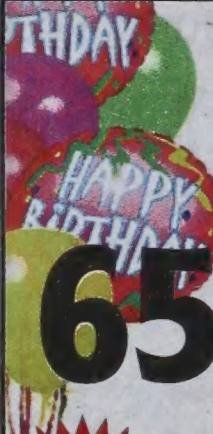
Kids Engage in a Wide Variety of Activities at Haliburton Home

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

The home of Joan Brown on Bayshore Rd. in Haliburton was turned into a fun zone for kids during March Break. On each day, kids were able to participate in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, as well as arts and crafts. For the first half of the week, they spent their time as Six Nations people. For the last half of the week they've been dressed up as cowboys and cowgirls.

This was the second year that Brown hosted an activity week for kids with help from family members. Last year she ran a "pioneer days" theme. ■





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Showing No Signs of Fear Students Humour Judges in Public Speaking Contest

Many local elementary school students have started engaging in what most adults wouldn't even consider doing.

It's public speaking and it's back again for another year. Hosted by various local Royal Canadian Legion branches, the contest gives students a chance to be creative through the delivery of a speech on a topic of their choosing. Students had three to five minutes in which to deliver their best work in an attempt to impress the judges.

Students who came in first place in their age category (primary, junior or intermediate) will move to the next level of the competition at designated locations.

Below are the results of the speaking contests that were recently held in Wilberforce and Minden.

Wilberforce

Grades 1-3

- 1st - Taylor Davies
- 2nd - Melinda Meharrie
- 3rd - Brooke Billings

Grades 5-6

- 1st - Kelsey Maracle
- 2nd - Carmen Galea and Jade McCartney
- 3rd - Matthew Hunter

These top three finishers will go on to the Zone F-5 public speaking competition this coming Saturday at Legion Branch 402 in Millbrook.

Other speakers in Wilberforce included: Ethan Evans, Brittany Lampman, Lloyd Callfas, Connor Gadway, Tyler Casey, Cody Lampman, Cole Finlay, Keisha Hughes, Patricia Savard and Drew Deterling.

Minden

Grades 4-6

- 1st - Michael Turner
- 2nd - Gabriel Petric
- 3rd - Peter Martin

Grades 7-8

- 1st - Drew Hewitt
- 2nd - George Charlebois
- 3rd - Laura Pottier

These top three finishers will go on to the Zone level at the legion in Fenelon Falls on Saturday, March 21 at 12 p.m.

Other speaker in Minden included: Braydin Hollows, Eugene Cho, Cassidy Mavill and Maia O'Sullivan. ■



Left to Right: Peter Martin, Braydin Hollows, Gabriel Petric, Eugene Chow, Michael Turner



Drew Hewitt, Cassidy Mavill, Laura Pottier, George Charlebois, Mia O'Sullivan



Dog Incident Revisited

In the Thursday, Feb. 26th edition of The County Voice, we reported that Breanna Stephenson, a local 6-year old girl, was involved in an unfortunate accident with a dog. As a result of the incident, she was left with a seven centimetre laceration that stretched from under her right eye to the bridge of her nose.

Concerns were raised by some of our readers about "necessary" surgeries being required for the child that Breanna's mother maintained would not be covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

In reply to many phone calls and emails to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, two official representatives told the Voice that all procedures deemed medically necessary for the well-being of a child, including cosmetic procedures, would be covered.

"If a doctor deems it to be medically necessary it will be covered," said Andrew Morrison, Spokesperson for the Ministry of Health. "OHIP covers a wide range of services."

Though Morrison said he couldn't comment on a particular case, he did say that treatment for any injury that would affect the mental or physical state would be provided free of charge. ■

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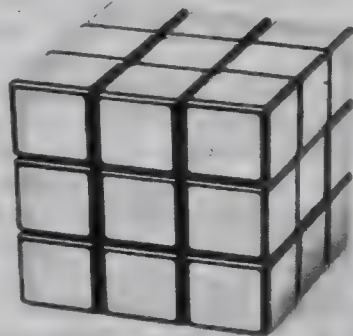
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Six Women – Rose Pearson's Studio Group Show at Rails End

Six Local Artists
Painting Together
Rails End Gallery
March 13 to 11
Rails End Gallery
and Arts Center

The exhilarating aspect of an omnibus artistic collaboration is diversity.

Like Forrest Gump's box of chocolates, collaborative artistic efforts offer a profusion of range, a multiplicity of textures, and a veritable cornucopia of style.

"You're never quite sure what you're gonna' get," is how Forrest put it.

Of course, boxes of chocolates now come replete with those cardboard cheat seats. You may, if you are so inclined, pick only the chocolates that suit your fancy. Cheat sheets ruin the wonder. They spoil the surprise.

Rule number one in life and chocolates? Live dangerously. Throw out the sampler card. Because, in life as in art, well-trod paths make deep ruts. Art eschews cliché, avoids the mundane, and should gravitate to paths less taken. Otherwise, what's the point?

Thankfully, there are no cheat sheets accompanying the latest exhibition at the Rails End Gallery. And even if there were, you'd probably just want to leave it at the door. And while you're at it, remember to come with an open mind and the retro hum of an unchained melody knocking around your noggin.

The show, entitled 6 Women – Rose Pearson's Studio Group Show – on exhibition at Rails End from March 13 to April 11 – is best viewed a la carte.

Prepare to be surprised. And delighted.

The artwork plays like an articulate archipelago, separate islands of brushed strokes, each section lovingly translated and painstakingly placed by Rails End art coordinator Tiffany Howe. The exhibit is best viewed as an island hop, a freedom ride on brush-dappled trails.

All six women, Maija Stone, Lois Raw, Elizabeth Turner, Terry Wright, Trish Wooton, and Rose Pearson came to art because of their generic and inbuilt disdain for the rutted path. So a viewing presents a nice little sashay of dovetailed styling. A commitment to their craft is evident in each piece on display.

There is something for everyone here, from bright acrylics, to monochromatic renderings, from the specific to the overarching collage.

The 6 Women are all area artists, women that for the past year or so have been meeting once a week to imbibe in the synchronicity of their passions. They work together on their separate infatuations; and they all seem transcendently imbued with that exotic non-tangential mindset.

So a visit to the Rails End Gallery in the next couple of weeks to take a peek at this very eclectic blend of local art could actually provide the viewer with a tonic for what has become a very long and arduous winter here in the Highlands.

The stunningly visual aspect of 6 Women provokes a notion that spring is just around the corner. Last Friday (March 13) at the show's opening, well over 70 people arrived to partake in the far-reaching collection of paintings. The sun was out and there was an aspect of March Ides in the air. Many people stayed to chat with the artists. Many more just came just to partake in the imagery, which is quite visceral and very captivating.

The colors, the joy and the delight are evident in all of the work on display.

Pearson is the Yoda of the group. She says that the women came together after an art class at the Haliburton School of the Arts was cancelled in the summer of 2007. Rails End curator Laurie Jones says the idea for the impromptu collaboration was all down to Turner.

"Elizabeth got the whole thing going," says Jones. Turner suggested, back in 2007, that Pearson go ahead with some art instruction on an informal basis. Pearson was excited about the idea. Collaboration in art is steeped in tradition, and remains a touchstone of the arts community. We tend to think of art as a solitary pursuit. We forget that a number of Canada's Group of Seven artists met often to discuss, to paint and offer critiques. The 6-Women are simply carrying on that ritual of partnership, and cooperation.

Pearson is a former art teacher at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, and she has been on leave for the last five years, concentrating on her painting and the challenging work of raising two pre-school children. She says that she loves to teach, and Turner's suggestion came at a nice time in her life. "I was interested in teaching anyway," says Pearson. This was an excellent opportunity for her to return to an impromptu classroom, while still allowing her the space to pursue her own art, and the raising of her two kids (aged 3 and 5).

And so it began, back in the summer of 2007, a mutually beneficial collaboration of talented Haliburton-area women, who all maintain a deep and abiding respect for their craft and their art.

"We get together every week and they each pay \$10 for two hours," laughs Pearson, who says the teaching stipend is there only "to pay for the electricity in the studio." She says that they learn together. Sometimes she will offer a class in technique, but she says that each student brings their own input to each class. "When we get together, everyone responds to each other's work," says Pearson. "I'll occasionally offer demonstrations of techniques, like still life, but we aren't that structured. We offer critiques and information, because all of our styles are quite different."

Pearson's own work ranges from some exquisitely detailed paintings of leaves painstakingly taken from fall photographs shot near Hal High, to some intriguing, playful, and colorful animal paintings, which she says were themed for her two pre-school aged children.

All six women bring a part of themselves to their work.

Stone, a retired teacher works from the collaborative studio called 'Dapplewood' on Stormy Lake. She is moving from water to acrylic and is working, with the help of Pearson, on texturizing. Raw is the charming inventor in the group. She says that art appeals to her because it conveys aspects of life not available through the spoken word.

Turner is well known. Her landscapes are broad and encompassing and she also offers visitors views from her own life and travels abroad. Wright says she arrived here in Haliburton a few years back, drawn to the area because of the living and vibrant arts community. Her monochromatic work is based on a series of historical portraits, given new life through her remarkable technique. Wooton comes to art from another venue. She is an actor and is just now discovering art through Pearson and the 6-Women. She is currently embroiled in collage and renderings of delicately intricate insects.

So a visitor to the 6 Women exhibit at Rails End can expect variety, color, textured forms and some of the de rigueur and natural experimentation that evolves from alliance and partnership.

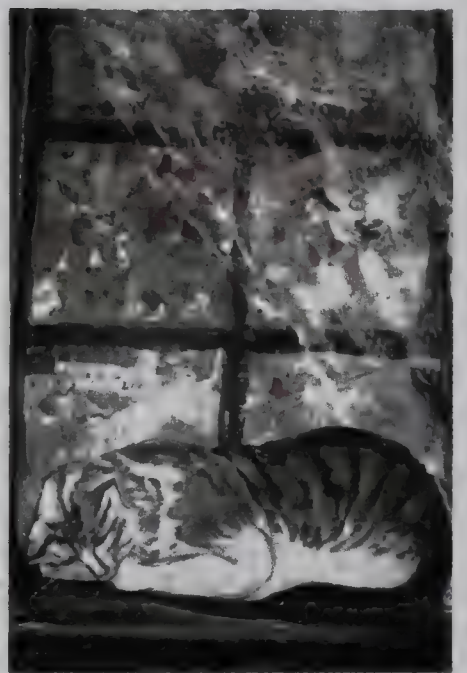
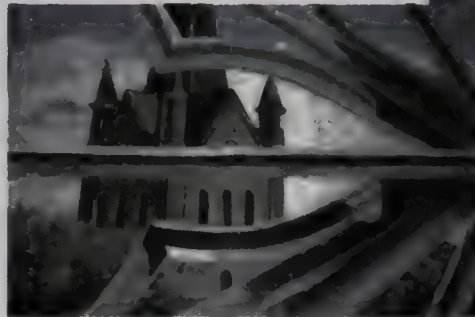
Reality and whimsy, and a very nice blend of form structure and style.

Andre Gide, writer and Nobel Prize for Literature winner once said that, "Art is the collaboration between God and the artist, and the less the artist does the better."

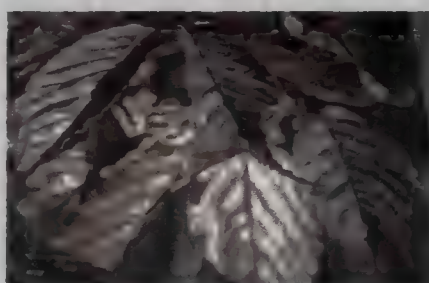
A little daunting, but a pretty succinct reinforcement of synergy.

It cements the notion of cooperation.

Something six women in Haliburton already know a lot about. ■



Terrance Gavan
Staff Reporter



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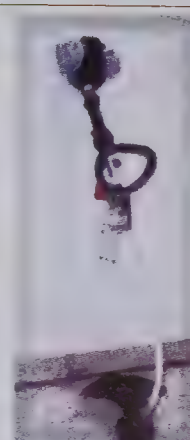
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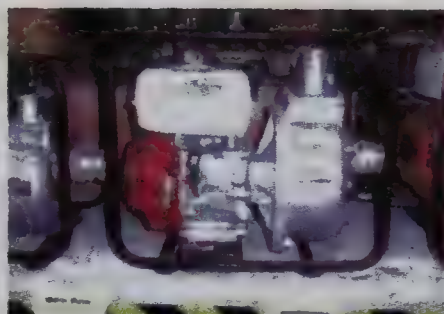
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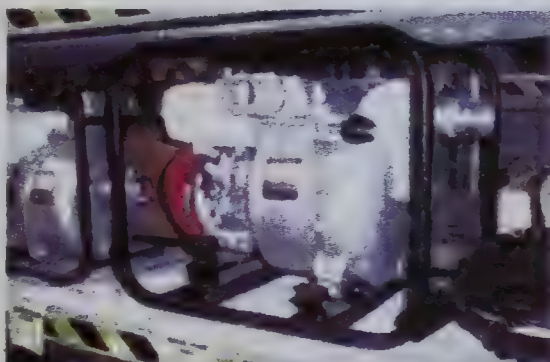
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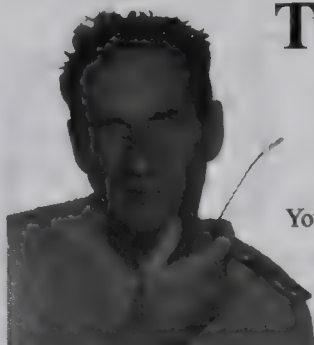
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Thursday, March 19, 2009

John Mackey and Doug Harvey – But for the Grace of God Twin Pyres Burning – Broken Warriors and Retirement



Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

You are always just one hit away from oblivion.
No one says it out loud.

But it's there on the dais of any professional player's career.

It was there when John Mackey redefined the tight end position. He was drafted by the Baltimore Colts in 1963 and his career never ended with one hit.

Instead, he rallied through a succession of hits and numerous undiagnosed concussions in the 60s and early 70s. He won a Super Bowl and was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Of course John Mackey can't remember any of that today.

John Mackey is a victim.

Mackey suffers from frontotemporal dementia, which makes him particularly protective of personal possessions and suspicious of anyone who tries to control his actions.

Frontotemporal dementia is not a pretty disease. It's heartbreaking when it hits someone still young and in his prime.

Less pretty yet is the fact that the care necessary to keep Mackey safe from himself and others is not fully funded by the NFL Players Association or the NFL proper.

Ironic, considering that as president of the NFLPA, Mackey was there on the front lines, early in the game, when owners didn't consider unions as part of their operations' template. Mackey and his union fought on. And they eventually earned the right for arbitration, settlement strategies and free agency.

Alas, he can fight no longer. His wife Sylvia finally had to put John in the custody of a care facility.

She even went back to work as a flight attendant when she was 56 to make ends meet, and to get John the health insurance he needed to cope with the trauma of a mind lost.

What the hell happened?

Columnist and author Frank Deford wrote a nice little piece about John just before Christmas last year.

"When John Mackey starred for the Baltimore Colts, he pretty much created the modern position of tight end," wrote Deford in a column for National Public Radio. "He was also bright and a

leader, the president of the NFL Players Association. But as singular as he was, now he's just like so many other old pro football players: John Mackey has dementia."

And that's what happened.

John Mackey lost his marbles. And the NFL and the NFLPA couldn't give a diddle.

Deford goes on to say that it's been left to the wives and loved ones to carry the weight, a ball that the NHLPA and the NFL have thus far been loath to lug.

"Largely because of (Sylvia) and a few other loyal wives and children, the NFL and the players union started the 88 Plan — named for Mackey's old number — to help players with dementia," Deford explained. "Ninety-seven of them are already receiving assistance, though the league is quick to say this certainly doesn't imply any link between football and brain damage."

You can bet your right butt-cheek that the league is quick to distance itself from this particular controversy. They would prefer that it remain buried in a tidy, secure ward of a full care retirement facility.

Thankfully, this particular dirty little secret is gaining leverage as more doctors begin to plumb the deep, dark and deadly depths of brain trauma in contact sports.

I was watching hockey the other night when one of the announcers mentioned that a certain player had already offered to donate his brain to a medical study on brain trauma. It was met by a few chuckles and the de rigueur speculation from his on-air partner that he might have already done it.

And I chuckled too, before remembering Doug Harvey.

If Mackey redefined the tight end position, well, Harvey certainly did no less for the defense position in hockey. He patented the hard charging headman era of the flying juggernaut known as Les Habitants, playing with legends like Maurice Rocket Richard, Jean Beliveau, Henri Richard and Dickie Moore. He won six Stanley Cups with the Habs.

And like John Mackey, Harvey was also a player activist, involved in the creation, with Detroit's Ted Lindsay, of the NHL Players Association.

And, like Mackey Harvey's retirement did no go as well as his career.

I grew up in Ottawa and I remember my father telling me the disturbing story of Harvey who was then eking out a ravaged existence sweeping floors at an Ottawa area race-track and living in a converted railway car.

On December 26, 1989, at the age of 65 Doug Harvey died of cirrhosis of the liver in Montreal General Hospital. He had stopped drinking three years before he passed away, but at that point it was too late.

Harvey's problems stemmed from depression and untreated bi-polar disorder, and it's hard to judge if shots to the head actually exacerbated Harvey's condition.

It matters not.

What matters are two disparate lives, parlayed like chattel midst the callous indifference of professional sports.

Maybe we could take something from this.

Maybe the owners and the players associations could take some ownership, step up to the plate and dig in on the front lines instead of working like quirky Luddites in the wings.

Maybe it's time to remember the guys in the trenches who long ago fought to bring some equity to the playing field and to the arena.

A point five percent cut on the gate and a similar surcharge on player's salaries donated to player retirement and health care would not place an undue burden on owners or players today.

And I know it's exactly how John Mackey and Doug Harvey might have drawn it up. Back in the day.

When they were professional athletes; young, strong and invincible. ■

MARCH BREAK SPECIALS



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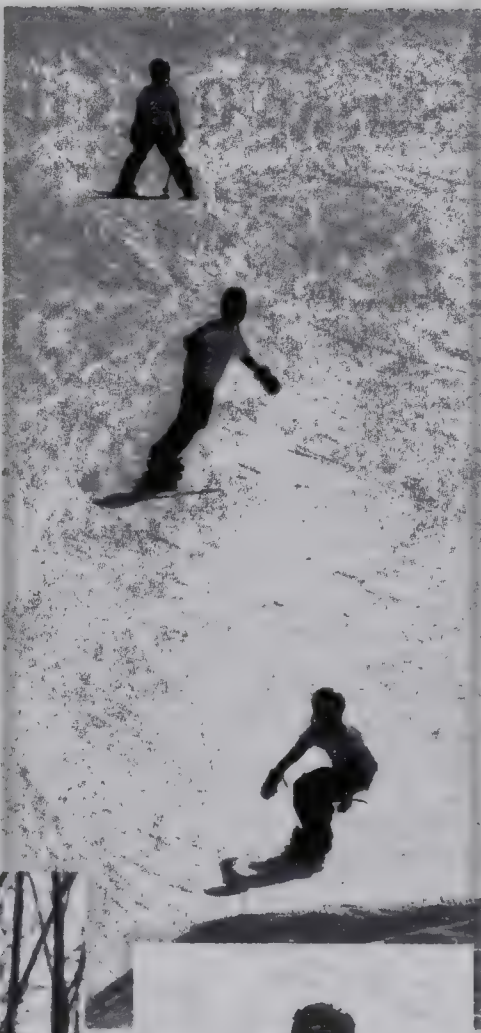
**Say
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saw it
in the
Voice**

Sir Sam's Spectacular March Break

"The weather's perfect, the snow is deep, and the skiers couldn't be happier," says Chris Bishop, one of the owners of Sir Sam's Ski Area in Eagle Lake. "And the cold nights mean we can have the runs in great condition each day."

With day-time temperatures in the low teens, and the sun finally delivering some real spring warmth, Mother Nature has delivered a nice end-of-season boost to Sir Sam's, which experienced only so-so action this past winter. Conditions were constantly good, but bitter-cold temperatures on many weekends, and presumably the equally cold economy, made for a respectable, but flat year.

The season will end with the Annual Spring Splash on Saturday, March 28th. And then, Sir Sam's first ever Mountain Biking and Hiking season will launch with a Grand Opening Weekend June 27th to 28th. For further information checkout the website at www.sirsams.com. ■



Buddies Ryan VanLieshout (Far Left), Joseph Patrick (Centre), and Drew VanLieshout (Above) catch some serious air at Sir Sams this week.



Highland Cup in Jeopardy: \$1500 Needed to Ensure Next Year's Race

Harold Foyster has announced that next year's Highland Cup Snowmobile Race will have to be cancelled unless he can raise \$1500 by March 28th to secure a suitable weekend for the 2010 season. Foyster told the Voice that "I just can't afford to do this all by myself, but I do think it's a great event for Haliburton. We had to cancel this year's race because of a lack of sponsorship dollars, but I think that was due in large part to the tough business climate. But we did have 80 racers participate last year, and they certainly want to come back to Haliburton."

The other towns that want to secure the early March 2010 race dates are in New York State. But there's no doubt the sanctioning race body would like to return to Haliburton. But they need that \$1500 deposit by March 28th. If you wish to help, you can contact Foyster at 457-2278. ■

Fined \$750 for Trespassing with Firearm

A Bancroft area man was convicted under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of trespassing while in possession of a firearm. Ernie (Eugene) Roy, 63, was fined \$750.

The court heard that on November 5, 2008, during the local deer hunt, a Ministry of Natural Resources Bancroft District conservation officer received a complaint from a landowner that Roy had trespassed on his property. This property is located off the Old Diamond Lake Road, Herschel Township, in Hastings County.

A thorough investigation was conducted. With the assistance of the landowner, the officer was able to determine that Roy was not only on the complainant's property but also on other adjacent private property.

Justice of the Peace Barry Moran heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Bancroft, on March 3, 2009.

The public is reminded that it is not only illegal but unsafe to trespass for the purpose of hunting. Hunters wishing to hunt on or enter onto private property where entry is restricted must obtain permission from the landowner.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). ■



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Flyers are Haliburton Men's League Champs

Another Long Hockey Season Bites the Dust

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

You know you're onto a good thing when you can boil a whole hockey season down to one day, including elimination games and finals.

It's probably something the major leagues should look into.

Leagues like the NHL for instance. They should probably commission a study into Canadian men's hockey leagues for a look-see into effective playoff management. We could all be on the golf course or playing tennis a lot sooner if the NHL tore a page from the local Beer-League's playoff management system.

Like how not to let the National Hockey League playoffs get into scheduling conflicts with events like Wimbledon, golf weekends, and our summer vacations.

And yes, the NHL should probably start with the Haliburton Men's Hockey League (HMHL).

The HMHL managed to crack a fine nut last Saturday.

They started very early on Saturday morning and it was all done by 8 pm.



Flyers are A-Side Champs! (L-R) Ben Carpenter, Darren Mills, Jeremy Moynes, Dave Petch, Steve Draker, Jesse Johnson, Jon Petch, Jesse Lougheed, Chad Russell, Zach Joannu, Jeff Burk, Joey Sisson.

Including elimination rounds and three finals. That's pretty darn impressive.

A full season's run, cranked into a single day. And the best part?

Well, the games were played out in a pretty nice spirit of good-natured camaraderie. No fights and only a trickle of low key back and forth banter.

The Flyers won the Haliburton Men's League Cup with an exciting 4-3 shootout victory over the Stars.

Their victory came in an overtime shootout and only after the two teams exchanged daggers and momentum shifts throughout the lively and engaging contest.

In later action on Saturday evening, the Penguins beat the Avalanche 4-3 in overtime to take the B-Side event, and the Leafs beat the Wings 6-2 in the C-Side championship game.

Of course, bragging rights this year will go to the Flyers, the A-Side winners.

The Flyers outnumbered the Stars by a pretty fair margin, but with only three straight time periods to contend with, a short bench is not always a determining factor.

And it certainly wasn't last Saturday at Dysart Arena.

Both teams played well, and both brought all they had left after a full day of play in the preliminary rounds.

The Flyers opened the scoring at the four-minute mark of the first period. However, the Stars rallied to tie with just 50 seconds remaining in the opening frame. They quickly changed ends and both teams missed a fair number of chances in a no-goal second frame.

The Flyers scored just two minutes into the third off a long, long bouncing puck from just past inside center ice. It was the type of goal that reminds everyone why it's just so hard to recruit goalies for men's league and recreation league teams.

The long bouncers. From the vicinity of center ice.

And then the half-hearted taps on the pads from teammates accompanied by those ugly words. "Aww, shake it off."

No fun at all. The lonely backstop. The guy facing the other way. Like catchers in baseball, the backstop is forced into the limelight at the most inopportune times. Like those flailing knucklers from beyond the bleacher seats.

But the Stars and their goalie did manage to shake that goal off.

With a man in the box – for what was the only penalty in the game – the Stars came back to answer with a shorthanded tally midway through the third, tying it at two.

And right after that, things got interesting. And by interesting, we mean that both teams suddenly abandoned the defensive mindset. We fans like it when that happens. We like the wide open give and take. We like hockey teams that play hockey like the Phoenix Suns play basketball.

Wide open, and run and gun.

As if on cue, both teams suddenly pulled the string and the game suddenly opened up into a free-wheeling, free-for-all.

Less defense and more headman and some exciting stops courtesy of both goaltenders.

And just when it looked like the teams would be moving to a 2-2 outcome, the Flyers managed to pop a goal with only two minutes remaining.

And the Stars, who had already struggled back from two previous single goal deficits were again on life-support, behind 3-2 with only 90 seconds left.

The saving grace? Stop time is in effect in the final minutes and the Stars used that timing rule to great advantage in the final 60 ticks especially.

The Stars pulled their goalie with a minute left, and then forced face off after face off in the Flyers' end during the last minute of play.

In fact, they had seven straight shots on goal and seven times the Flyers backstop had to freeze play.

On the eighth face off, a drive from just outside the right slot found twine with only 18.4 ticks left on the clock. Overtime.

The extra frame solved nothing and the Flyers finally managed to eke out that 4-3 win by out-notching the Stars in the exciting simultaneous, dual-slalom shootout.

The dual slalom means that two players from opposing teams both take pucks at center ice, heading off on breakaways to both goals.

It makes it very hard on the spectators, but it's an exciting way to decide a game.

Which brings us back to Beer Leagues- like the HMHL - and great ideas that should be considered by the NHL.

I'm feeling this. Picture it. I did just that last Saturday during the A-Side Final between the Flyers and the Stars at Dysart Arena.

Alex Ovechkin and Sid The Kid Crosby both starting from center ice at the same time, the game in the balance.

I've already twittered the league office, asking them to consider the Haliburton Men's Hockey League Shootout template for implementation in 2010-11.

I'm not expecting much from a league that still can't figure out how to end a season before the first tomato harvest in Prince Edward County.

But hope floats.

And we've always been ahead of the grid here in the Highlands.

Congratulations Flyers and all of the teams that participated in the HMHL this season.

And remember.

Bauer Skates: \$325.

Titanium Stick: \$210.

Reebok body armor: \$425.

Bragging rights? Priceless.

Oh, and remember.

Book that 2009-10 ice time early. We're only five months away from next season. ■



Municipality of Dysart et al

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER STUDENT –

HALIBURTON LANDFILL SITE ATTENDANT

The applicant for the Landfill Site Attendant must be a Student returning to school in the fall. The successful candidate must be available to work from May 3rd, 2009 to August 29th, 2009 and must be willing to work weekends. Duties include, but are not limited to, assisting in the operation of the site during landfill hours and maintaining effective control over the recycling program.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a detailed resume, to the undersigned by 3:00 pm on Friday, March 27th, 2009.

We thank all applicants but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.

SEEKING MEMBERS FOR LIBRARY

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Municipality of Dysart et al is forming a Library Fundraising Committee to actively pursue fundraising opportunities to support our new library currently under construction.

Individuals interested in volunteering their time are asked to submit a letter to the undersigned by Friday, March 27th, 2009.

Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.,
CAO/Clerk.
Email: tmckelvey@dysartetal.ca
Phone: (705)457-1740
Fax: (705)457-1964

Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue,
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Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

TENDER FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF

LIGHTING FIXTURES AT THE DYSART ARENA

– VILLAGE OF HALIBURTON

The Municipality of Dysart et al is inviting tenders for the replacement of lighting fixtures at the Dysart Arena.

Tender Documents and execution forms can be obtained at the Dysart Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario or on our website at www.dysartetal.ca.

Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2nd, 2009.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Hal High Curlers COSSA Champions

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

The juggernaut rocks on to Ontario High School Finals in Kitchener



Connor Duhaime, Curtis Nichol, Jesse Walker, Coach Tom Dibblee and Owen Duhaime

We probably shouldn't confuse these guys with the four horsemen of the apocalypse.

Sure they engender fear in the hearts of opponents.

And sure, they continue to move large hunks of opposition granite, inspiring some degree of awe.

And okay, maybe they could be accused of waging a bit of a 'scorched-ice' curling campaign of late.

But Conquest, War, Famine, and Death?

Overkill, surely.

And of course, any comparison of Red Hawk curling to the four horsemen might be considered a little loopy. Unprecedented even.

I'm good with loopy. And this is a team that has, in the last two months, departed from genre.

Consider that this foursome has already won the prestigious Gore Provincial curling championship. Add to that a beautifully managed undefeated run to capture the Kawartha championship.

And now?

The Red Hawk curling team is headed to the Ontario High School Curling Championships next week in St Catharines, after utterly dismantling their opposition in the COSSA Curling Finals in Bancroft last Wednesday.

Their trip next week to the OFSAA championships is their third sashay to the provincials in six seasons.

Haliburton's Four Horsemen: Connor Duhaime, Curtis Nichol, Jesse Walker and Owen Duhaime rode some inspired inturns, rollicking outturns, and a devastating hitting game to a COSSA championship last Wednesday at Bancroft's curling club.

In the first game, the Hawks defeated Belleville's Centennial Secondary School 9 - 3 after 7 ends. In their second match-up the Red Hawks had to stare down Kawartha rivals Holy Cross. And the foursome prevailed again, beating the Crusaders 8 - 2 after only six ends. In the third game of the round robin Hal High defeated Moira Secondary School from Belleville 5 - 0 after only 5 ends. Three walk-offs and the Hal High foursome was already on their way home while the other three teams battled it out for second place.

Pretty nice curling.

Coach Tom Dibblee was ecstatic about the three victories that earned them the COSSA banner, but you have to understand Tom Dibblee to get a feel for this team.

Tom Dibblee is not a fan of hyperbole. He would never for instance compare this team to the four horsemen.

Look up unassuming in your Websters Dictionary and you just may find a headshot of Tom Dibblee.

So don't expect coach Dibblee to show his hand until the last takeout is made and the final rock is sitting on the button.

Understatement and even-tempered game management is what Tom Dibblee is all about.

And he's passed that onto all of his curling teams in a decade plus of coaching. Red Hawk curling teams have been to the OFSAA finals before. Connor and Nichol were there two years ago, and Connor qualified two years before that.

"It looks like a pattern, every two years," chuckles Dibblee.

And Dibblee also understands that the OFSAA event being played at three separate curling clubs from Wednesday, March 25th to Saturday, March 28th in St. Catharines will be a tough nut to crack. Three clubs means three sets of ice. And every change of ice means a change in temper and timbre in the roaring game. Nuance plays big in curling. And nuance can wreak havoc on the unprepared noggin.

But Dibblee says his curling team is blessed with a unique capacity to block out distractions.

The OFSAA needs three curling clubs next week, because in the small space of four days it will be conducting playdowns for 20 girls and 20 boys teams.

For those of you unfamiliar with the scheduling and distribution of seeds and brackets and the vagaries of slotting four separate five team round robin draws, let's just say that the organization of this event is, in a word, daunting.

Dibblee says that adding to the headaches for his own team is the fact that the foursome, Skip Connor, third Nichol, second

Walker and lead Owen Duhaime have seen only two of the teams in the 20 team field.

The Red Hawks defeated SOSSA representative EL Crossley Secondary School in the Gore and they also previously beat Mary Ward Catholic who will represent the TDCAA in this year's OFSAA tourney.

That leaves 17 unknown quantities in a field that stretches from Ottawa to Windsor and north to Sault Ste Marie.

Dibblee says that a lot will depend on the seedings, and he expects that their scores from Kawartha, COSSA and the Gore Championship will figure in the Hawks favor as tournament organizers engage in the finicky job of placing those 20 teams.

It's a huge field and the organizers will be basing seedings on results and scores from a year of curling and a slate that includes 20 sets of results from a broad array of competing schools. The Gore victory should weigh heavily in the Hawks' favor.

The Red Hawks will start their quest on Wednesday at 2:30 pm against Napanee District Secondary School at the St. Catharines Golf and Country Club.

Then at 8:30 am on Thursday morning the Hawks will go up against Crestwood Preparatory College in the second of their round robin match-ups. At noon on Thursday the Hawks face Geraldton Composite High School. They don't play again until their final round robin game at the Grimsby Curling Club against Bishop Tonnos High School (Ancaster) on Friday morning at 8:30 am.

Dibblee says that their number one priority is to get out of round-robin play intact.

That's no small chore, considering that all four games in their five-team bracket will be very important as only the two top teams from the four round-robin brackets advance to Friday afternoon's quarter-finals.

And from the quarter finals in, it's all sudden death.

"Our goal is to get out of the round robin and into the quarter-finals," says Dibblee.

He adds that the foursome, who have been participating in the competitive men's league at the Haliburton Curling Club on Monday night's have decided not to enter the men's playdowns at the Haliburton Club which began on Monday of this week.

They'll be concentrating on the task at hand.

Also, they're on spring break, and some will be taking time to head out to the hills for some snowboarding.

Dibblee is hoping that they'll forego sliding the rails or forays into the woods.

He says that they're all excited about moving on next Wednesday to St. Catharines.

And Dibblee adds that this year, they may just have the horses to accomplish that full run to finals.

That's seven games.

Seven games where the four horsemen must take on other personas.

Conditioning, Mindset, Desire and Drive.

Dibblee will downplay any talk of Ontario championship. There are too many variables to consider. Too many teams unseen.

But he is sure of one thing.

"I know they want it."

For week of Mar. 23/09

Horoscopes

It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a natural gift for attracting new friends, who are drawn to your unabashed love of what life should be all about.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You'll want to discourage well-meaning but potentially ill-advised interference in what you intend to accomplish. Your work has a better chance to succeed if it reflects you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Bovine's well-deserved reputation for loyalty could be tested if you learn that it might be misplaced. But don't rely on rumors. Check the stories out before you decided to act.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You've been going on adrenaline for a long time, and this unexpected lull in a recent spate of excitement could be just what you need to restore your energy levels. Enjoy it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Friends can be counted on to help you deal with a perplexing personal situation. But remember to keep your circle of advisers limited only to those you're sure you can trust.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Security-loving Lions do not appreciate uncertainty in any form. But sometimes changing situations can reveal hidden stresses in time to repair a relationship before it's too late.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time for single Virgos to make a love connection. Be careful not to be too judgmental about your new "prospect" -- at least until you know more about her or him.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of justice helps you resolve a problem that might have been unfairly attributed to the wrong person. Spend the weekend doing some long-neglected chores.

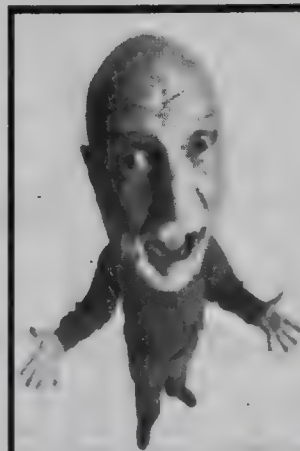
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might feel justified in your anger toward someone you suspect betrayed your trust. But it could help if you take the time to check if your suspicions have substance.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Ignore distractions if you hope to accomplish your goal by the deadline you agreed to. Keep the finish line in sight, and you should be able to cross it with time to spare.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your creative self continues to dominate through much of the week. Also, despite a few problems that have cropped up, that recent romantic connection seems to be thriving.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) As curious as you might be, it's best to avoid trying to learn a colleague's secret. That sort of knowledge could drag you into a difficult workplace situation at some point down the line.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Instead of spending too much time floundering around wondering if you can meet your deadline, you need to spend more time actually working toward reaching it.



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Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Have Your Say... VOX POP

We asked people, "Will you be participating in Earth Hour on Saturday, March 28? How will you be doing your part and why do you think this is a good global initiative?"



Bill Wark, Redstone Lake – "Last year I didn't leave any more lights on than I needed. I didn't unplug my computer though. It's something that we should be conscious of. Turning all the lights off helps the environment and the less electricity you burn, the less energy everyone has to use."



Gloria Carnochan, Kennis Lake – "I did last year by shutting off all power at the office. At the office we run with low lights at all times. We have to be conscious of the energy that we're using. We should all be conscious of our resources and global warming. We need to start by taking baby steps which will turn into big steps."



Pat Pierson, Camarvon – "Of course I will. I believe that I'll be at home and we'll have everything turned off. No hockey that night! We also did it last year. I think that everyone should be doing it. It's a really good initiative."



Savannah McAusland, Minden – "We usually do it every year. We turn everything off and sit in the dark and play board games. We make sure that everything that uses electricity is off. It really helps the environment and it should slow down global warming too."

American Drought

The U.S. weather agency NOAA warned that the first two months of 2009 have brought the driest start of any year nationwide since keeping records began in 1895. While recent rains in California have eased that state's severe drought, the lack of precipitation elsewhere is troubling farmers and firefighters. The National Interagency Fire Center in Boise has logged 11,814 wildfires so far this year — the most for any two-month period in a decade and nearly 3,700 more than average. Texas has suffered some of the worst effects of what is being called "exceptional" drought conditions in parts of the state. Ranchers have been forced to sell their cattle because fields are too parched to feed them. Roughly 3,400 wildfires have burned in Texas since the beginning of the year.

Saudi Sandstorm

A rare wintertime sandstorm enveloped the Saudi capital of Riyadh and other parts of the desert kingdom, sending dozens of residents to hospitals with respiratory ailments. Cars and houses were covered by the yellow Saudi sand, which also forced the capital's international airport to shut down for a few hours. The handful of people who ventured outdoors while the howling sandstorm raged wore surgical face masks or kept handkerchiefs over their noses and mouths, according to local media. The blinding storm also struck neighboring Kuwait, briefly halting oil exports and forcing the closure of the Persian Gulf emirate's three ports. Meteorologists say that much of the Saudi peninsula has not received rain for a third winter in a row, making desert sand so loose that it is easily whipped up into sandstorms by strong northwesterly winds.

Vulture Malaria

India's endangered vulture population now faces another threat that may kill those birds that survived poisoning by a now-banned livestock drug. The country's Center for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCBM) told the tabloid *Mail Today* on Sunday that the scavenger birds are succumbing to a new strain of avian malaria, which is spread by mosquitoes. Wildlife experts had been puzzled as to why the vultures continued to die long after the drug Diclofenac was no longer being distributed and used in livestock. The medication caused kidney failures that nearly wiped out the birds after they consumed the carcasses of treated animals during the past few years. CCBM researchers say that they have been able to administer anti-malarial drugs to some vultures critically ill with the new strain of the parasite, leading to their recovery.

Japanese Eruption

Southern Japan's Mount Sakurajima volcano erupted for the second time this year, spewing hot lava near the city of Kagoshima. Globes of lava were found over a mile from the crater, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency. Since reawakening in 1955, Mount Sakurajima has become one of Japan's most active volcanoes with thousands of minor explosions reported each year.

Australian Cyclone

Category-4 Cyclone Hamish sent huge waves and gale-force winds into Australia's northeastern coast for several days as the heart of the storm raked the country's Great Barrier Reef.

• Cyclone Joni formed briefly in the South Pacific's Cook Islands.

Earthquakes

The most powerful earthquake to rock the Australian city of Melbourne in 36 years knocked items off shelves and caused furniture to move for nearly 30 seconds. Windows shattered and walls cracked due to the 4.6 magnitude quake.

• Earth movements were also felt in China's Sichuan province, western Guatemala, Costa Rica, Hawaii's Big Island, the San Francisco Bay Area and metropolitan Oklahoma City.

Bat Warming Stations

A pair of researchers has proposed a novel way to help bats in the northeastern U.S. survive a deadly fungal attack that has decimated the flying mammals' populations during the past two winters. Instead of treating the fungus directly, Justin Boyles, a graduate student in biology at Indiana State University, and colleague Craig Willis of the University of Winnipeg, propose putting sources of heat in hibernation caves to allow bats to warm themselves when they briefly come out of hibernation. It's believed the newly identified fungus causes the bats to spend more time out of hibernation, depleting their fat reserves to keep warm and eventually causing them to starve to death. Since bats normally fly to the warmest part of a cave during the brief breaks in their wintertime slumber, the use of warming boxes could help the species survive until a long-term cure is discovered. Boyles and Willis write in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology* that the method could cause mortality rates from "white nose syndrome" to drop to as little as 8 percent if localized heat sources are used.

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MOOSE FM

HALIBURTON - MINDENS CLASSIC ROCK 93.5

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

© 9 ing eatures ynd., nc.

Super Crossword

DELAYED
REACTION

ACROSS

- 1 Writer Susan
7 AAA handout
10 Explorer Taaman
14 Checker move?
19 Carry too far
20 Winter hazard
21 Creme — creme
22 Kunta — ("Roots" character)
23 Start of a remark by Steven Wright
25 Patrician
27 Canadian prov.
28 Victim
29 Wool gatherer?
30 Roll-call reply
31 Level
33 Entire range
36 Put up with
38 Thick stick
41 Put aside
43 Blind part
44 See 11 Down
45 Part 2 of remark
50 It may get flipped
- 51 Connecticut town
54 Summit
55 Live and breathe
56 Mighty mite
58 Sausage segment
59 Long Island resort
62 Tel Aviv teacher
64 Out of the way
66 Beak
67 One way to park
68 Tranquil
70 Part 3 of remark
71 Kukia or Lamb Chop
72 Ill will
73 Cherbourg chapeau
74 Glee
75 — a Symphony ("65 song)
76 Submarine finder
77 Competitors
78 Facilitate a felony
82 — Tin Tin
83 Paradise
85 Merchant
87 Cal. page
88 Part 4 of remark
93 Over
95 Jal —
96 Sounds the tocsin
- 97 Ullman or Gold
98 Goatish gamboler
100 Bar hop?
101 Dr. Scholl's concern
102 Source
103 Cardinal
105 — Flynn Boyle
107 Mil. training ctr.
110 African capital
113 End of remark
116 Jazzman
117 Forehead
118 Organ of equilibrium
119 Steak or lobster
120 Abrasive substance
121 — forgive those ...
122 Be too interested?
123 Arid area

DOWN

- 1 Manhattan district
2 Hot spot?
3 Frog's kin
4 Singing syllable
5 They may be personal
6 Mahalia's music

- 7 Pixie and Dixie
8 — Breaky Heart ("92 hit)
9 Princess bruise
10 Orthodontists' org.
11 With 44 Across, salad veggie
12 "Silas Marner" author
13 Endure
14 Ring stat
15 Kansas city
16 "The Lady" ("79 film)
17 Gawk
18 French bean?
24 Fancy vase
26 A Muse
31 Inflatable item?
32 Sell
33 Continue
34 Circle section
35 "Mal de —"
37 Impoverished
38 Fountain order
39 Component
40 Carthaginian queen
41 Book part
42 Travel with Spock?
- 43 — aerobics
46 Rotisserie part
47 Defer
48 NASA lap
49 Equine accessory
52 Skirt shape
53 Cone island attraction
57 Ballet's Tallchief
59 Actress Stevens
60 Santa's problem
61 Destiny
63 Dominant, as a dog
65 On the sly
66 Doris Day refrain
67 Handbag
68 Master, in Madras
69 '85 John Malkovich movie
70 Barnyard belle
71 Mottled
72 Sorvino or Nair
73 — fide
74 Complaints
76 Big rig
77 Lute feature
79 Coll. hotshot
80 Roof part
81 Playing card
- 84 TV's — & Greg
85 "Comin' — the Rye"
86 Half-baked?
89 More squalid
90 Heavenly sight
91 Alphabet sequence
92 Network
94 Try for a hit
97 Provoked
98 Biblical city
99 Pianist Watts
100 Fishermen, frequently
101 Auber's "Diavolo"
102 Confront
104 Swedish rockers
105 Last name in limericks
106 Crooked
107 Grimm creature
108 "Moon-struck" star
109 Dele a dele
111 Utter
112 Blow away
113 Drill sergeant's shout
114 Compass pt.
115 — Not Unusual ("65 hit)

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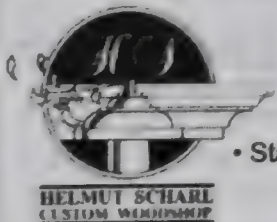
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Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: When I was growing up, my parents had a framed poem from your column hanging on our kitchen wall. None of us kids could miss it because it was right next to the telephone. Before we moved out to start families of our own, Mom gave each of us framed copies of it to remind us of family values.

Won't you please run it again for your readers? The title of the poem was "Success." Young couples today would find it as beneficial as my parents did. It worked for my sisters and brothers and me. -- MIMI IN LOS ANGELES

DEAR MIMI: I'm glad to oblige. The poem, which was penned by Martin Buxbaum, is included in my "Keepers" booklet, which is a collection of favorite letters, poems and essays that have appeared in this column over the years. It was assembled because so many readers said the items were meaningful to them, and requested that they be compiled as a booklet. Read on:

SUCCESS
You can use most any measure
When you're speaking of success.
You can measure it in fancy home,
Expensive car or dress.

But the measure of your real success
Is the one you cannot spend.
It's the way your kids describe you
When they're talking to a friend.

The booklet is titled "Keepers" because so many Dear Abby readers kept the poems, essays and letters to re-read. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

"Keepers" covers subjects from temptation to forgiveness, animals, children and human nature. Filled with down-to-earth nuggets of wisdom, both witty and philosophical, it's a quick and easy read, and an inexpensive, welcome gift for newlyweds, pet lovers, new parents or anyone recovering from an illness because it touches on a variety of subjects.

DEAR ABBY: My single, 40-year-old cousin, "Gail," has two teenage daughters. Four years ago she built a beautiful three-bedroom house that she has never moved into. Instead, she lives with her mother and stepdad in a rundown farmhouse where her girls share a bedroom.

Gail's mother is afraid to ask her to move out, and the rest of the family can't understand why she would allow her house to stand empty. Let me add that Gail has an annual salary of almost six figures.

What's wrong with this woman? -- PERPLEXED COUSIN IN N.Y.

DEAR PERPLEXED COUSIN: Which woman? The mother or the daughter? I suggest that you ask them that question.

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Announcements

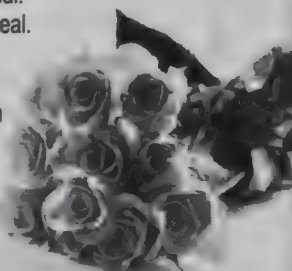
In Memory of

In Loving Memory
of a Dear Husband, Father and Grandfather

Bev McElwain
February 15, 1937-March 21, 2004

Memories are golden no one can steal.
Death brings heartache no one can heal.
To some he may be forgotten
to others part of the past.
But to us who knew and loved him
his memories will forever last.

Always in our thoughts.
Marlene, Glenda, Gene, Erin,
Keith and Families.



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Begins March 23rd, 4:50 p.m. Monday and Wednesday
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Notices

The Highlands Little Theatre

regrets having to make the decision to postpone our show
"Divorce Anyone"

The reasons are utterly beyond our control.

To those who have bought tickets, if you return them to the appropriate ticket outlet, they will happily refund your money.

We hope to stage this production in the Fall -

we will let you know more.

Thank you for your support.

HLT Executive

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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Crossword Answer

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FOOD SERVICES STAFF REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY at the Kinark Outdoor Centre. We are located on Queens Line off of Hwy 118 west of Camarvon. Previous experience working in a food service setting preferred and ability to work independently essential. Competitive hourly rate. Please fax, email or mail resumes to: Carmen Hanak Kinark Outdoor Centre, PO Box 730, Minden ON K0M 2K0, Fax: 705-286-6184, carmen.hanak@kinark.on.ca (mar C 09)

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continued....

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WANTED - Old or antique used furniture, one piece or whole estates bought plus clean-up of everything also cars, trucks, boats trailers if the price is right I will make you a deal on anything call Richard in Tory Hill at 448-3920. Clean up of scrap cars or metal as well. (TFN)

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Highlands Little Theatre presents:

DIVORCE ANYONE?

by John Patrick
Directed by Wayne Cooper

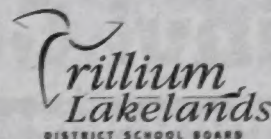


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Trillium Lakelands District School Board, with schools encompassing the District Municipality of Muskoka, County of Haliburton and City of Kawartha Lakes, is committed to quality education with the belief that learning is a lifelong process. For further information on our Board, please refer to our web page at www.tltsb.on.ca

Trillium Lakelands District School Board would like to thank all respondents, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Resumes will be kept on file for two months. The successful candidate will be required to provide a satisfactory criminal record check and complete a satisfactory health assessment as a condition of employment.

K. Verduyn
Director of Education

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For further information on TLDSB and this position, including application details, please refer to our website. Applications, including three professional references (one of which must be a recent/immediate supervisor with authorization to be contacted under the terms of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act), should be forwarded, quoting file #MM-2009-03-09-01, by 4 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2009, to: Wilma Lynch, Senior Manager, Human Resources, Trillium Lakelands District School Board, P.O. Box 420, 300 County Road 36, Lindsay, ON K9V 4S4. Fax: 705-324-8913.

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Chairperson

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The Intimate John Lennard

Sketches at Crowne Gallery Reveal Thought Processes Behind His Paintings

George Farrell
Staff Reporter

"I was intrigued by his electric coloration, and there was something else there I wanted to see. I wanted to know what was going on, and I wanted to see the sketches. Sketches are the most intimate way to see the thought processes of what artists think, visually."

So says Marc Shroetter, owner/manager of the eclectic Crowne Gallery. Marc's latest exhibition is a showing of the sketches and quick, water colour washes of one of the Highlands best known artists, John Lennard.

For those not familiar with John's landscapes in oils, they are bright, bold, exotically familiar, realistically impressionistic renderings, and a direct response to nature and the environment. You owe it to yourself to see John's paintings, because they appeal to the layman as much as to the jaded connoisseur.

An exhibition of oil paintings is one thing, but an exhibition of sketches quite another. The importance of this particular exhibition is that John Lennard is laying his soul bare. For those of you who know him it's maybe one of the last things you'd expect from this quiet, private man. Kudos to Marc Shroetter for 'drawing him out.'

John was born in Barrie Ontario in 1937. He moved with his family to Toronto at an early age. He attended Leaside High School, where he was active in both football and hockey. Upon graduation he attended classes at the Ontario College of Art (OCA), from '56 through '60. OCA has always prided itself on stringent entry requirements, and most of those accepted have usually had some sorts of formal artistic training. Not John. He got in strictly on self-taught technique and talent.

"From the time I was a little kid I liked to draw. Mom would give me paper and pencil to keep me out of her hair," he recalls, with a smile. "And then my brother Dave, who is ten years older than me, gave me some oil paints on my 12th birthday, and I've loved the media ever since. I don't know where my talent came from. Not from my Mom or Dad."

When he was in high school and taking less than inspiring art classes, John nevertheless went on several trips to what was then the Art Gallery of Toronto, which subsequently morphed into the Art Gallery of Ontario. It was there that he "fell in love with the

works of Van Gogh, and was knocked out by the Impressionists." Up until that point John's work was of a realistic nature. Later, at OCA, under the tutelage of well known artists Carl Schaeffer and Jock McDonald, John's work became more abstract, impressionistic, and textural. Using mainly brushes for application,

become known.

In Toronto, similar things were happening in Yorkville, where on any given night in coffee houses and art galleries you could see the likes of singer/songwriter Gordon Lightfoot, and artists such as Ken Danby, Dennis Burton and Harold Town.

"It was a great learning process," John admits of his years in the big apple. "I guess you'd say I led a bohemian life, taking odd jobs to make ends meet." John lived in New York, on and off, for 25 years. But when he wasn't in New York, he was mainly in the Haliburton Highlands.

"I first started coming to the Highlands to my uncle's cottage on Big Hawk Lake in 1948," he said. In 1950, my parents built next door on Big Hawk, and we still own the property today."

From his summer trips to the Highlands, he would take sketches back with him to New York, where they would form the basis of some of his paintings. His works still tended towards the abstract though, and from several showings in New York galleries he made just enough to keep the wolves from the door. But Haliburton was pulling him back. "The Highlands were an incredible influence on me, right from my OCA years," he says, "and I found that by the mid 80's my work was coming full circle, the recognizable imagery was getting much stronger."

Another influence was John's wife Marie, whom he met in 1988, when he was visiting family in Dundas Ontario. "She was managing a restaurant, and a niece introduced us. She didn't like

me at first," he states, with a twinkle in his eye, "but we got married in Hamilton in 1990." Both John and Marie had been married before. At the time John was already spending his summers in the Highlands, and the couple made the commitment to move up permanently. "Marie's kids thought she was nuts to move way up here with some crazy artist," John remembers laughing, but the choice proved to be a good one. "I told Marie that it would be about 10 years before I really started to sell my work, but that was accelerated somewhat."

The reason for the acceleration was due to very successful shows that John had at the Rails End Gallery in Haliburton, at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden, and later at the Ethel Curry Gallery. "I guess I've been successful for about the last 15 years," he admits, and John estimates

that in total, he's sold over 500 paintings. The secret to his success?

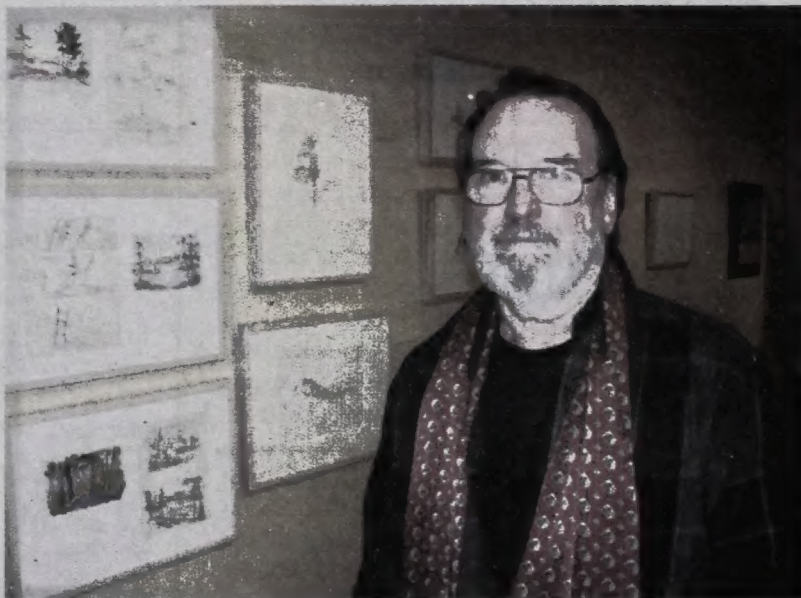
"I basically paint for myself, as opposed to painting something that somebody else likes or wants. I think perhaps people like the colour, but some other people shudder at it. People have often said that they recognize my work, so I guess there's individuality to it. I also try to make my work accessible, price-wise."

John is a widely exhibited artist, and his works are in many collections. His paintings can be seen locally at the Ethel Curry Gallery in Haliburton, and Whispers North in Minden, but to discover something of what makes his paintings work, you have to go to the Crowne Gallery. "It was Marc's idea to exhibit some of my sketches," John says, seemingly still somewhat surprised that his sketches would constitute a show of their own.

"After the Crowne opened in the summer of 2008 I pestered him at his Minden studio a number of times," says Marc. "About four months ago we started to see a bit more eye to eye, and I went by a couple of times and looked at the sketch books. Eventually we collaborated on gleaning what we considered was a good representation of his drawings for his later oils, and we both found ourselves getting more excited about it. The word is spreading, and people are showing an interest in finding out how he works. It's great too that John has lent us a couple of his oils to hang with the sketches. That way you can see the beginning, and end product."

For a fascinating look at the work behind the work, and at the first step in the creative process that makes up an oil painting, be sure to check out the 30 sketches of John Lennard at the Crowne Gallery, located at 115 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden, right next to the Dominion Hotel. The show opens on February 22nd and runs through to April 29th. The gallery hours are Tuesday 11 am - 6pm, Wednesday to Saturday 12am-8pm, and Sunday from 12-7 pm. You can contact Marc Shroetter at (705) 286-2518 and at crownegallery@sympatico.ca.

If you'd like to see some more of John's Lennard's oil paintings, you can contact him at his Minden studio, tel: (705) 286-3037, and lennard@inrhop.net. ■



his canvasses were very textured, the result of thick globs of paint. "I use a lot less paint nowadays," he says, "though my work was colourful even then. I guess it was the Van Gogh influence; colour has always fascinated me."

After graduating from OCA John moved to New York City, where he studied at the Arts Students League. "It just seemed that New York was where all the action was," John and his colleagues hit all the hot folk clubs, and gallery openings. "Tuesday night was a big night for openings," he recalls, "and we'd hit the ones with the wettest bars and the one's that served the best food." John would go to where the famous artists hung out, and rub shoulders with the likes of Willem de Kooning, Mark Rothko, Franz Kline and Jasper Johns. "Kline refused to talk about art, and only wanted to talk about the New York Giants." John remembers going to the Gerdes Folk City club and hearing a young Bobby Zimmerman; Bob Dylan as he later

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"Happy Birthday to Don"

Well-liked Haliburton Businessman Celebrates His 65th

A day-long celebration was held at Curry Motors in Haliburton this past Monday for the car dealership's long-time President, Don Popple.

Popple celebrated his 65th birthday at the dealership that's been a huge part of his life for over 30 years. To help him celebrate, the staff had a cake made by Haliburton Foodland that included an iced-on image of Popple in his mid-twenties, skating while sporting his hockey jersey.

Throughout the day friends of Popple's could be seen stopping by to wish him a happy birthday and indulge in a piece of cake.



Creating Healthy, Active Rural Communities

By Kate Hall

Welcome to the first of four articles about creating healthy, active rural communities brought to you by the Communities in Action Committee.

You live in the country so you must be healthy, right? Plenty of clean, fresh air and lots of opportunities for physical activity? In fact, Haliburton County experienced 30 smog days in the summer of 2006. And, the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Annual Report Card in 2005 showed that rural residents are more car dependent, half as likely to be as physically active as their urban counterparts and at an increased risk of being overweight or obese. Where we work, live, play and learn is important to our health and overall quality of life. Remember the saying "you are what you eat"? With new knowledge about the link between the way our communities are built and our health, perhaps its time to add a new saying; "you are where you live".

The large distances between home, work or school, and commercial areas, has led to a strong car culture in rural communities. More often than not, transportation = cars = roads. While we do need our cars, with a little creativity and a lot of community partnership, we can create healthy, active rural communities.

In 2004, a broad based coalition concerned about health, safety and the environment, began an ambitious project aimed at planning for people, not cars. Over the past four years, the Communities in Action Committee, otherwise known as the CIA, has been actively involved in planning, promoting and advocating for active transportation in Haliburton County. Active transportation is any human-powered form of transportation, usually walking and cycling, but also including things like skateboarding, in-line skating and wheel-chairing. Some of the Committee's work to date includes an active transportation plan for Minden, Walk, Bike & Be Active maps and signs for both Haliburton Village and Minden, and plans for the Haliburton Walking Trail that will provide a safe walking route to the schools and health care facilities. We are currently working on an active transportation plan for the Village of Haliburton and are developing a network to bring together local governments, organizations and community groups that have a role in creating healthy, active communities.

So what does a healthy, active rural community look like? Recently, the CIA held two Roundtable meetings involving 17 different organizations and community groups in order to create a common message about what a healthy, active community is. Here are some of the qualities that the Roundtable group agreed foster health and physical activity:

Opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to be physically active in their daily lives

Safe routes, places and spaces for walking and cycling

Sports and recreation facilities and opportunities

Places for people to gather, such as parks and other outdoor community spaces

Good lighting, signage, benches and other things that make a community safe and comfortable to get around in

Where we live plays a big part in how hard or easy it is to make healthy, active choices. The next article in the series will be about the benefits of healthy, active rural communities and how we can achieve this goal. In the meantime, think about the places and spaces in your community that encourage you to be active, and the different ways that you can incorporate physical activity into your daily life. I'm sure that shoveling snow will be at the top of many people's list! ■

IMAGINE

Only Having To Change Your Engine Oil Every 40,000 Kms

Do you moan every time you have to drag your vehicle to the shop every couple months (or approx 5,000 kms), and have your oil changed? Do you hate having to take time out so often; sitting in waiting rooms reading magazines you don't care about? Staring at the wall, floor, ceiling. You know.

What if you only had to do it every 40,000 kms? What is that to you? Once a year? Once every two years? More? What is that convenience worth to you? And what if it only cost about the same amount as you'd have to spend for that many changes? And what if you found out that not only would you save a ton of time and convenience, but you knew that you were putting the absolute "BEST" oil into your vehicle engine that would save you money on gas, make your vehicle run better and lots of other benefits?

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Bungalow \$174,900



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Drew Bishop - 457-2128

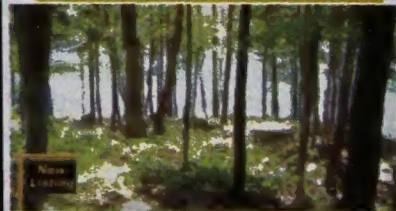
Cute as a Button \$245,000



Vintage 3 BR cottage, 720 sq ft, airtight woodstove, perfect flat lot, flat rock & sand beach shoreline on a municipal road, in a quiet dead end bay.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

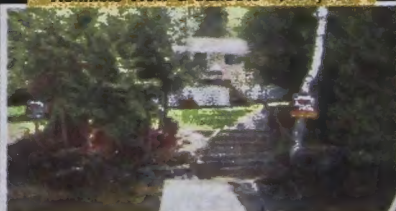
Waterfront Lot \$159,000



Beautiful, gently sloping 1.8 acre lot with mature trees, great swimming & fishing. 141' of shallow waterfront. Easy access & South exposure. Drive & hydro installed.

Deborah Deremo & Andrea Wilson 457-2128

Kennisis View & Sunsets \$499,000



5 BR multi-unit property. Enjoy the lake view & sunsets. Pine throughout, skylights, 2 baths & heated garage/workshop.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve. Simply move in.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Minden Bungalow \$249,900



Newly renovated brick bungalow with newer kitchen, ensuite bath and two garages off circular driveway. Immaculately kept!

Janice Brookes 457-2128

Recently Renovated! \$189,900



3 BR home, large kitchen, hardwood floors, stone f/p, large rec room could be 4th bed, w/attached single car garage, walk to all the amenities of Haliburton.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Cranberry Lake \$383,900



4 season cottage, w/o basement. Mainly level lot, 167' ftg. Private setting, yr rnd rd. New dbl garage & insulated cabin. Some interior finishing is needed.

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Horseshoe Lake Home \$639,000



Beautiful, 3 BR home w/attached garage, additional heated 2 car garage with loft, insulated bunkie, 'pure' sand beach with gazebo, gardens, hot tub. Turn key

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138

Family Starter Cottage \$259,000



4 BR cottage on flat lot offers sandy beach @ front deck. Nicely treed lot, clean, quiet smaller lake. Year round road allows for skiing and snowmobiling possibilities.

Dagmar Boettcher - 286-2138

Ski Chalet \$449,000



Ski in and out of this stunning new 3 BR, 3 Bath chalet at Sir Sam's Ski Hill. Full finished bsmt & w/o. Large wrap around decks. Spectacular view of Eagle Lake.

Andrew Hodgson - 286-2128

Sharon Lake \$199,900



Cosy 2 BR on no-motor lake. Original pine plank flooring, new pine ceilings and over 400sq.ft. of decking. End of road location and 5 acre lot provides privacy.

Anne Moulton - 286-2128

Location, Location, Location: \$199,900



Location: 2 BR home + cottage on quiet rd. Location: mins from Haliburton; Location: across from dock on Lk. Kashagawigamog.; It's got it all!

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

New and Improved! - 189,900



Cute cottage in quiet inlet on Minden Lake with sandy bottom, great fishing and beautiful rapids. Southern exp. New dbl capacity septic & power line. Close to town.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

2-Lake Chain \$234,900



Cottage on Long Lk (Long & Miskwabi chain). 110' shoreline, lge sundeck, new woodstove, next to municipal land for extra privacy. Turn-key setup incl. paddleboat & canoe.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

One of A Kind! \$699,000



5 BR, 5 bath 4000 sq.ft. cedar home. Former B&B. Triple garage. Studio & wkshp. Docking on Kashag. chain. Open concept, hardwood flrs. Impressive kitchen, stone FP.

John Hincks 286-2138

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Privacy+++ fabulous sunset view, sleeps 8 and is the sweetest cottage in Haliburton with 300 feet of shoreline"

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

5 Lake Chain \$359,900



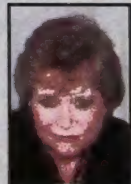
Nicely updated 3 BR cottage on Kashagawigamog. Sand & rock shoreline, SW exp. Open concept with stone FP & new kitchen. Winterized. Accessible by yr.mnd. rd.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

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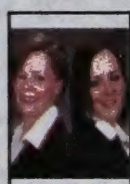
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